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Class No. 030.....

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SPEECHES  
BY THE  
EARL OF MINTO,  
VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.



CALCUTTA  
SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNMENT PRINTING, INDIA  
1911



# INDEX TO SPEECHES

BY THE

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA

1905 to 1910.

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# SPEECHES

BY THE

## EARL OF MINTO.

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### I.—SPEECH DELIVERED IN ENGLAND.

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1905.

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#### FAREWELL BANQUET IN LONDON.

[It may be safely assumed that, apart from his audiences of the 30th Oct. 1905. King, no feature of the events connected with the Earl of Minto's departure to assume the Governor-Generalship of India will abide in his heart and memory more vividly than the banquet to which he was entertained by numerous hosts, all personal friends of his own and some of them life-long friends, at Prince's Restaurant on Monday, the 30th October 1905. The fact that the dinner was, in reality, a private gathering of friends accounts for the absence from the list of diners of many names which would have prominently figured had the occasion been semi-official in character, and for the almost entire absence of members of the India Council or permanent India Office officials and of representatives of the professional and mercantile communities of the Anglo-Indian world. For the same reason, the speeches made have not been reported in the Home Press, with the exception of a somewhat important remark of the guest of the evening as to the need for giving India a rest from its years of strenuousness, and of a compliment paid the Viceroy-designate by Lord Lansdowne. All the arrangements were admirably organised by Mr. Moreton Frewen. The diners were assembled at a number of round tables, the central table being occupied by the most prominent members of the party. The Duke of Portland was in the chair, and to his right were Lord Minto, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and Lord Roberts, while to his immediate left were the Lord Chief Justice (Lord Alverstone), the American



*Farewell Banquet in London.*

Ambassador, and Sir Algernon West. Others at the chief table were Mr. Brodrick, Lord Middleton, General Sir Alexander Elliot, Lord Clarendon, General Lord Falmouth, General Sir Frederick Stephenson, Lord Strathcona, Lord Cheylesmore, His Excellency Sir Henry Blake, Governor of Ceylon, Dr. Warre, late headmaster of Eton, and Mr. J. M. Richardson. A special interest attached to the presence of the last-named veteran of the saddle, who won the Grand National Steeplechase two or three times in the old days when Lord Minto as "Mr. Rolly" was always one of his rivals, and the two sportsmen trained and rode Captain Machell's steeplechase horses at Limber Magna. At the "Winchester" table were the Marquis of Winchester, General Lord Downe, General Arthur Paget, C.B., General L. Oliphant, C.B., Mr. W. H. Grenfell, M.P., Sir John Dickson Poynder, M.P., Sir Frank Swettenham, Major the Hon'ble R. White, the Hon'ble Evan Charteris, Colonel John Leslie, and Mr. Leo Rothschild. At the "Lytton" table were Lord Lytton, Mr. Edward Hope, C.B., Sir Alfred Fripp, C.B., Colonel F. Romilly, C.B., Captain Fred. Adam, Mr. Arthur Grenfell, Mr. Henry Graham, Mr. Leslie Ward, and Mr. Arthur Guise. At the "Granby" table were Lord Granby, Lord Harewood, Lord St. Oswald, Lord Annaly, Lord Bath, General Sir R. Pole-Carew, Sir F. Younghusband, Sir Henry Blake, the Hon'ble Spencer Lyttelton, C.B., Mr. Walter, and Mr. Leo Maxse. Major the Hon'ble Edward Bourke presided at the "Mayo" table, and with him were Sir Edward Hamilton, Sir Charles Turner, Mr. Gerald Loder, Colonel Sir Curzon Wylie, Colonel Weston Jarvis, Colonel Seymour Corkran, Mr. H. A. Gwynne, Mr. M. Elliot, and Mr. H. W. Hoare. Lord Sandhurst presided at the table to which his name was given, and with him were Lord Bolton, Lord Farquhar, Lord Alwyne Compton, M.P., General Sir E. Hutton, the Hon'ble George Peel, Colonel Ivor Maxse, Colonel Laurence Drummond, Colonel Chester, Colonel Inigo Jones, C.B., and Mr. G. Cornwallis West. General Sir Hugh H. C. Gough had charge of the "Gough" table, and with him were Sir R. Waldie Griffith, General Henry Stracey, General Sir R. Lane, General Chapman, C.B., General Sir J. Gordon, General Alderson, C.B., Colonel Spencer Childers, Major Stirling, C.B., and Captain Bell. At another table were Lord Windsor, Sir Thomas Elliott, General McMahon, Captain Chandos Pole, Sir Henry Meysey Thompson, M.P., Mr. Russell Stephenson, and Mr. H. Elliot. At the "Clive" table were Lord Powis, Lord Kilmorey, Lord Essex, Lord Berkeley Paget, General Sir Seymour Blane, General Sir B. Campbell, General Brabazon, C.B., Colonel Ralph Vivian, Captain the Hon'ble Charles Fitzwilliam, Mr. F. Lingham, and Mr. Moreton Frewen, the Honorary Secretary of the dinner. The Hon'ble Arthur

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

Elliot, M.P., brother of the Viceroy-designate, presided at the "Minto" table, and with him were the Hon'ble W. F. Lascelles, Sir Henry Graham, Sir Edward Buck, Mr. P. M. Thornton, M.P., Colonel Dunlop Smith, C.I.E., Sir Vernon Chater, Colonel MacMahon, Captain F. Hughes, Mr. G. R. Parkin, and Mr. J. Garvin.

The toast list was so artistically produced that it forms a souvenir of an interesting occasion well worthy of preservation. The front page of the cover was occupied with an excellent portrait of the guest of the evening, the only description being "Governor-General, 1905," while the back of the cover was embellished with the firm, kind face of his great-grandfather, "Governor-General, 1807." Within is a portrait of Lady Minto in the Court dress with long train which has been shown in many of the sketches of Her Ladyship given by the illustrated papers. Facing this portrait was the brief toast-list of four items followed by lines in which "H. G." gave versified expression to the sentiments in the minds of all the hosts assembled to bid convivial farewell to their guest, whose great personal popularity was abundantly evidenced during the evening. The lines were as follows :—

To greet their Guest, so doubly blest  
 With proud Proconsular position,  
 To Prince's Hall come great and small,  
 Peer, poet, politician ;  
 United in a deep desire  
 To honour one whom all admire.  
 The Duke is there to take the Chair,  
 Fond friends about the board are sitting ;  
 The wine is good, and choice the food,  
 The toast-list brief but fitting.  
 Yet o'er the banquet, truth to tell,  
 There broods a shadow of Farewell.  
 Their tears excuse, who grieve to lose  
 The friend they cherish *con amore* ;  
 Though truly glad that he has had  
 This chance of further glory ;  
 Upholding, as he richly merits,  
 The great traditions he inherits,  
 He seeks again, and not in vain,  
 The British Empire's good opinion ;  
 But just returned with *kudās* earned  
 Within the Great Dominion ;  
 Where slow to judge and swift to act,  
 He ruled with dignity and tact.

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

And she who shares the joys, the cares,  
 The triumphs of his lofty mission ;  
 Whose pride is his, whose glory 'tis  
 To further his ambition ;  
 Though far from home she may depart,  
 Stays shrined in many an English heart.  
 Whoever sings the " Sport of Kings,"  
 Whoever rode (or backed) a winner,  
 Foregathered here from far and near  
 To " Mr. Rolly's " dinner ;  
 With joyful shout your tumblers drain,  
 And make the welkin ring again !

\* \* \* \* \*

Yes, cheer with *vim* ! Let beakers brim !  
 Acquaintance, comrade, friend, relation !  
 Let wine galore in bumpers pour  
 A generous libation !

\* \* \* \* \*

" Your Excellencies ! " (we address you ! )  
 " Farewell ! *Bon voyage* ! and God bless you ! "

The Duke of Portland, whose clear, resonant utterance added to the pleasure with which he was heard, first gave the loyal toasts, which were warmly honoured. In speaking to the second of them he said he should only be voicing the feelings of all of them when he expressed a hope that the Royal tour in India would not only be brought to a satisfactory conclusion and give great enjoyment to Their Royal Highnesses, but would also be of great benefit to the Empire. (*Hear, hear.*)

## LORD MINTO'S CAREER.

Proceeding to give the chief toast of the evening, the Duke of Portland said :—

" I rise to propose the toast of the evening with mixed feelings, for the pleasure which I feel at the totally undeserved honour conferred upon me in making me the spokesman of the hosts on this occasion is very much counterbalanced by the knowledge that I entirely lack the necessary powers of oratory to do anything like justice to such an important toast on such an important occasion. But I am sure that, in however poor a manner I may perform my duty in submitting the toast, your response will be none the less warm, nor will your good wishes be any the less heartfelt to him whose health I have the honour and the pleasure to ask you to pledge. (*Cheers.*) I have to ask you to drink to the health of our guest, Lord Minto (*loud cheers*), the

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

Viceroy-designate of India. It seems, my Lords and Gentlemen, only yesterday since his old and warm friends gladly welcomed him home from Canada; and now, with feelings of pride, not unmingled with regret at the thought that he is so soon to leave us again, we are assembled here to wish him God-speed and every circumstance of happy fortune in the new and most honourable office which it has pleased His Majesty to confer upon him (*cheers*), an office in which he follows in the footsteps of his illustrious ancestor, who filled the same high office from 1807 to 1813. That our guest this evening will fill that responsible position with the greatest benefit to his country and credit to himself we all, I am sure, thoroughly believe (*hear, hear*); for does not his past history fully and unhesitatingly entitle us to do so? (*Hear, hear.*) The record of his most brilliant and tactful service in Canada is too recent and too well known for me to allude to at any length to-night. I will merely say, without fear of contradiction, that he conducted the affairs of the Great Dominion with marked firmness, tact, and ability. (*Hear, hear.*) During the stress and strain arising out of the war in South Africa he encouraged, by every means in his power, that spontaneous patriotic feeling of loyalty which placed at our disposal that splendid Canadian contingent which rendered glorious service on many a battlefield in the area of conflict. (*Cheers.*) Carrying back our minds a little further, we see that Lord Minto has gained a knowledge of the world in many and various ways of service for the Empire. It may be said that he has profited as few others have done by following the fortunes of war either as a spectator or as a combatant in Spain, in Paris during the Commune, in Turkey during the Russo-Turkish war, in Afghanistan—where he served on the staff of our old friend Lord Roberts (*cheers*), in Egypt and the Soudan, where he led a company of mounted infantry, and during the Riel rebellion in Canada, his first introduction to the Dominion being as Military Secretary to Lord Lansdowne (*hear, hear*), whose presence here we all most gladly welcome, and whose splendid successes at the Foreign Office, besides gaining us an invaluable friendship on the Continent, have secured us an alliance in the Far East likely to be of infinite advantage to India and to our whole Empire, and not only this, but one that will make for the peace of the whole world. (*Loud cheers.*) In earlier life, my Lords and Gentlemen, Lord Minto showed the iron nerve and resolute courage he possessed by his prowess in the saddle and by his many gallant attempts to win the Grand National. (*Laughter and cheers.*) I am quite sure that this remark will fully commend itself to Mr. J. M. Richardson (*cheers*), “Cat” Richardson, Lord Minto’s old racing confederate, and on many occasions his most doughty opponent. Summing up Lord Minto’s career, it may be said

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

that wherever useful experience has had to be gained or service has had to be rendered to his country, there Lord Minto has been, and I submit to you that in all these different walks of life he has shown those qualities of tact, skill, resource, and courage of which we, as his friends and countrymen, may be justly proud. (*Hear, hear.*)

"It does not seem so very long ago that we said good-bye to him with regretful though gladdened hearts on his departure for Canada. We are now again assembled to say good-bye with the same regret but if anything with increased confidence on Lord Minto's departure to take up his onerous duties as Viceroy of India (*hear, hear*), as the successor to one who has filled that office with more than usual vigour and ability. (*Loud cheers.*) It is not for me to dilate on the many and splendid services which Lord Curzon has rendered to the Empire during his tenure of office as Viceroy. They are well known and deeply appreciated by his countrymen both here and in the East (*cheers*), and I am quite sure that when the history of our day is written it will do full justice to his distinguished career. In asking you to drink with all honour and enthusiasm to the health of Lord Minto (*cheers*), I take upon myself, as your spokesman, to assure him that he goes forth to the responsible duties of his glorious office accompanied by the best wishes of his friends and supported by their complete confidence in his ability to fulfil those duties to the greatest advantage of his country and with entire credit to himself. (*Hear, hear.*) You will permit me, I am sure, to include in the toast the name of the lady who so greatly assisted him in his duties, both social and philanthropic, in Canada. The manner in which she did so caused her to be beloved throughout the whole Dominion. (*Cheers.*) May I assure her, through our guest to-night, that she will leave her many true friends in this country deeply regretting her departure; that their God-speeds to her husband apply equally to herself; and that we wish her and her family with all our hearts happiness and good fortune in all the days to come." (*Loud cheers.*)

The request of the Chairman was most enthusiastically responded to, amid loud cries of "Rolly! Rolly!" with three cheers for His Lordship, and one for Lady Minto.

## THE REPLY.

When the ovation had ceased Lord Minto promptly rose to express his thanks, only to be received with another outburst of cheering. He said :—]

*My Lord Duke, Your Excellency, my Lords, and Gentlemen,*—I really am at a loss to know how to thank you

*Farewell Banquet in London.*

adequately for giving me the opportunity of meeting this great gathering of friends ; nor do I know how to return thanks for the too kind words in which your Chairman has proposed my health, or for the warmth with which you have received the toast. I am glad to feel that there is nothing official in the proceedings of to-night (*cheers*), that we need none of us be afraid of our postprandial utterances, spending sleepless hours in thinking about what we have said or what we have not said. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) This evening is to me full of meaning, full of affectionate memories of the past and hopes for the future. I look around me, and see companions of my whole career, such as it has been—soldiers and old comrades, and keen sportsmen with whom I have ridden between the flags and shared many a good gallop with hounds. I see an old school-fellow, a brilliant oarsman (Colonel Corkran), and visions rise up before me of many a hard-rowed race and many a long pull on the Thames ; and I see a Chief Justice (Lord Alverstone), the “ Dick ” Webster of old days—that will-o’-the-wisp of the running path that none of us could catch. (*Laughter and cheers.*) And of those I have known in wider fields, there are here to-night that much beloved General (General Sir F. Stephenson), who was my first Commanding Officer, Lord Roberts and Sir Hugh Gough, the leaders I am so proud to have served under, and the distinguished Foreign Secretary of to-day (the Marquess of Lansdowne)—another old school-fellow—on whose staff I served in Canada and to whose tutelage in the ways of official life I owe so much. I cannot tell you how great a help it is to me to feel that whatever responsibilities and difficulties I may have to face in my far-distant administration I can at any rate always rely upon the good wishes and loyal support of the friends I am leaving at home. And I am all the more sensible of your kindness in giving me the encouragement of this farewell, because, though I am deeply sensible of the greatness and magnificence of the position to which the King has

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*Farewell Banquet in London.*

done me the honour to appoint me, I cannot but realise that the task before me is not an easy one. The difficulties and responsibilities of Indian administration loom large before me. I am succeeding a brilliant ruler who, in perfecting the machinery of State, has given evidence of abilities and talents which no successor can hope to emulate. And yet my racing days have taught me that many a race has been won by giving the horse a rest in his gallops. (*Laughter and cheers.*) I go forth from these shores hoping to reap the benefit of work already done—hoping to be able to the best of my ability to maintain the results of that work, to recognise the noble self-sacrifice of our fellow-countrymen's services in distant lands, and to further as best I can the happiness and confidence in each other of men of different nationalities, races, and creeds. (*Cheers.*) It is somewhat of an advantage to me that to a certain extent the history of India is not quite an unknown book to me. (*Hear, hear.*) I have been brought up in a home full of Indian traditions, in a house full of old Indian literature, decorated with beautiful works of Indian art. (*Hear, hear.*) My great-grandfather was Governor-General of India nearly a century ago; an ancestor whom I have been taught to venerate, and who has always seemed to me to have united a charming personality and modesty of character with the broad-minded outlook and capacity of a great statesman. (*Hear, hear.*) His brother Hugh was Governor of Madras. My mother's father was Commander-in-Chief in that Presidency, General Sir Thomas Hislop, and fought those battles in Central India and the Deccan which brought the Maharatta war to a close and did so much to consolidate British rule in India. So I feel I have good footsteps to follow. I hope I may follow them worthily—I will at least try. (*Cheers.*)

I cannot thank you enough for all you have said respecting Lady Minto, for kind as the words of your Chairman were, no one can be so fully conscious as I am of the assistance her companionship and the surroundings of a happy home

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*Farewell Banquet in London.*

have been to me. (*Cheers.*) Lady Minto worked hard in Canada, and I hope has earned her reward in the affection of the people of the Dominion.

It only remains for me to add how deeply I appreciate this gathering of old friends, assembled to wish me good-bye and God-speed—old friends, the representatives of manly Public School and University training, of the chivalrous traditions of our soldiers, and the good hard common sense of the country gentleman of England—representatives of an element in the life of our country which has never spared itself in shaping the history of the Empire of which we are so proud.

The evening has been to me a very happy one, and I shall always look back with affectionate pride to the reception you have given me.

[Lord Minto resumed his seat amid cries of "Bravo" and cheering, which continued for several minutes.

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY.

The Marquis of Lansdowne said he had the pleasure to propose the one toast remaining on their commendably brief list. There was not a man present who did not wish to express to their noble Chairman their collective appreciation of the manner in which he had fulfilled his task. Those who had had anything to do with the organisation of complimentary banquets like that knew how extremely difficult it was to secure a competent Chairman. A really good Chairman was, without any exception, the wildest of wild fowl they could possibly pursue. Those who promoted the gathering were to be congratulated upon their choice and upon their success in inducing the Duke of Portland to take the Chair. (*Applause.*) He noticed that in the opening passage of his admirable speech (for he must say that he had rarely heard one which seemed to him more admirable) he dwelt with a certain diffidence on his own measure of capability. When he heard him say that, there occurred to him the old story that used to be told of the late Mr. W. H. Smith at the time he led the House of Commons. Soon after his appointment to that post, a friend of his (the speaker's) asked a member of the House what he and his side thought of Mr. Smith as a leader. He answered, "We like him very much; he isn't one of your d—d orators." (*Laughter*



*Farewell Banquet in London.*

*and cheers.*) He felt as he heard the speech of His Grace that he could not claim to be altogether exempt from this description—leaving out the expletive of course. (*Laughter.*) He remembered rather sorrowfully that his noble friend, although he attended the sittings of the House of Lords with fair regularity (*laughter*), to the best of his recollection had never assisted His Majesty's Government by any brilliant periods, such as he had given them that evening. (*Laughter and cheers.*) He had made a note on the matter in readiness for the future, in order to give His Grace an opportunity of the kind. (*Laughter.*) Meanwhile, the noble Duke had admirably interpreted their feelings that night. (*Cheers.*) Those feelings, as has been truly said, were feelings of a very mixed kind, because, on the one hand, they must all feel great regret that their dear friend and guest should be again snatched away from them for a period of five years; while, on the other hand, those of them who had watched his career, as so many of them had, with interest and with confidence, were delighted to know that he was to have a wider field than any of those which had yet been offered him for the display of the many sound and excellent qualities by which they knew him to be distinguished. As Lord Minto had indicated, there never was, perhaps, a gathering which for its size represented more varied interests in the ranks of life to which they belonged than the present one. But though the gathering was mixed, they had in the Duke of Portland a spokesman who understood what they wished to have said, and he had said it from his heart and in the right way. He was only tempted to add that in one other respect the Duke of Portland seemed to him a well-chosen Chairman. He occupied the high post of Master of the Horse, and ever since he (Lord Lansdowne) had known their guest he had been a master of the horse. (*Laughter.*) Amongst his distinguished antecedents reference had been made to his performances in the saddle. He believed thoroughly that the good qualities learned in the hunting field and between the flags had given to Lord Minto that firm seat and light hand by which as a high official he had been characterised. (*Loud cheers.*) Five years might, perhaps, seem very long to the Viceroy-designate, but he would find it pass very rapidly indeed, and he ventured to express a hope that when that period had expired and Lord Minto came back with added distinctions, they would be there to give him a welcome banquet and might induce their noble friend the Duke of Portland to take the Chair. (*Applause.*)

In expressing his indebtedness for the toast, the Duke of Portland said that, notwithstanding the too flattering words of the Marquis of Lansdowne, he could only repeat the wish that a more worthy person

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*Farewell Banquet in London.*

than himself had been found to take the Chair. Lord Lansdowne had likened him to some very shy kind of wild fowl. He must admit that when Mr. Moreton Frewen, who had taken so much trouble to organise the dinner, asked him to preside (*cheers*), he felt very much inclined to fly, to get on the wing. But the temptation to preside at the farewell dinner to his old friend Lord Minto was too great, so he waited for Mr. Frewen, and with unerring aim he brought him down. (*Laughter and cheers.*) He joined in the hope the noble Marquis had expressed, and trusted they would all be spared to welcome Lord and Lady Minto home again five years hence. Before sitting down he might read a letter he received just as he was leaving his house for the dinner. It was from Lord Minto's old friend and neighbour in Scotland, the Duke of Buccleuch. He said: "I write a line to you as Chairman of the dinner to Minto to say how sorry I am not to be able to be present to wish Minto God-speed and all success in India, especially as I have known him for so many years, and his father before him. He has been a really good sportsman and neighbour, and will be a very great loss to us in Scotland. I hope he may have equal success in India as he had in Canada and will add another name to the roll of successful Viceroyes who have been Scotsmen." (*Cheers.*)

The toast-list being at an end, the party left the tables, but it was not till some time later that the company broke up.]

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SPEECHES  
BY THE  
EARL OF MINTO.

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II.—SPEECHES DELIVERED IN INDIA.

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1905-1910.

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ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY.

[The Right Hon'ble The Earl of Minto, accompanied by the Countess of Minto, the Ladies Elliot, Colonel J. R. Dunlop Smith, C.I.E., Private Secretary, and Major F. L. Adam, Military Secretary, and Staff, arrived in Bombay by the P. & O. Company's steamer *Peninsular* on Friday evening, the 17th November. 18th Nov. 1905.]

The next morning His Lordship drove to the Apollo Bunder to bid farewell to Lord Curzon, the retiring Viceroy. After Lord Curzon's departure Lord Minto received an address of welcome from the Municipal Corporation of Bombay. The address was read by Sir P. M. Mehta, K.C.I.E., President, and contained a reference to the distinguished services of the first Earl of Minto in India.

His Lordship replied to the address in the following terms:—]

*Mr. President and Gentlemen*,—I value all the more sincerely the cordiality of your welcome to me as your in-coming Viceroy in that you associate your words of greeting with so grateful an appreciation of the public services of my ancestor, Lord Minto, whom after a lapse of nearly a hundred years our King and Emperor has appointed me to succeed in the administration of His Majesty's mighty Indian Empire.

*Address from the Bombay Municipality.*

Arriving as I did yesterday in the midst of the fascinating scenery and colouring of the East to be received by the Corporation of this great City of Bombay, it is impossible not to look back with wonder and admiration on the history which so many great names have helped to make since the Governor-General of Bengal and his staff landed from the little frigate *Modeste* in the surf boats of Madras.

It has been a history built up by great soldiers and statesmen from whom we have taken over a magnificent inheritance, the consolidated result of their labours and devotion, an inheritance the perpetuity of which British statesmen and Indian Princes, British and Indian troops will together proudly guarantee.

And now that the stormy struggles of early days are past it is to a united strength and a united patriotism that I, an administrator about to take up the reins of office, look for assistance in furthering that sense of security and rest throughout the length and breadth of India so indispensable for the development of her internal resources and her over-sea trade, for the careful consideration of her vital necessities, and the general happiness of her people. (*Applause.*)

I thank you sincerely, Mr. President, for your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and my family. The women of India will, I know, find a sympathetic friend in Lady Minto. I assure you we are both very grateful for the welcome you have extended to us, and look forward to the home and the interests we hope to share with you in the coming years. (*Loud applause.*)

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ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE.

[On Saturday afternoon His Excellency the Viceroy received an 18th Nov. 1905. address of welcome from the Chamber at Government House, Bombay. The address, which dealt mainly with matters of commercial interest and which called attention to the question of agricultural development to which His Excellency's attention was specially invited, was read by the Hon'ble Mr. C. M. Armstrong; President of the Chamber.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I sincerely thank you for the congratulations you have so cordially extended to me on my appointment as Viceroy of India, and I trust that possibly the experience I have gained during my period of office in Canada may, as you suggest, assist me in my future Indian administration.

The disastrous effects of the plague to which you so earnestly call my attention necessitate every effort to combat its ravages, and I can assure you you may rely on my sincerest sympathy and hearty assistance.

I can scarcely as yet venture to make any pronouncement on the commercial policy of India, but I have had ample evidence in my Canadian experience that trade follows the railway, and I am well aware that it is to the expert opinions of associations such as yours that I am entitled to look for that expression of commercial thought which must take the lead in the development upon which the prosperity of every country so largely depends.

The great interest Lord Curzon has taken in all commercial questions and his creation of a Department of Industry and Commerce have already been followed by substantial results, whilst I am convinced that in the encouragement of the great agricultural capabilities of this country lies much of the future prosperity and contentment of its people.

The importance of the interests so ably represented by yourselves and similar associations in other great centres of trade can hardly be overrated, and I thank you,

*Address from the Calcutta Municipality.*

Gentlemen, not only for the kindness of your welcome, but for the opportunity you have afforded me of meeting you to-day.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPALITY.

22nd Nov. 1905. [His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto, the Ladies Elliot, and Staff, arrived in Calcutta on the morning of the 22nd November. On the same day His Excellency received a deputation from the Municipal Corporation, who presented an address of welcome. The ceremony was held in the Throne Room at Government House, and the Hon'ble Mr. C. G. H. Allen read the address, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Mr. Chairman and Commissioners of the Corporation of Calcutta*,—I thank you for the very kind words of your address, and I would ask you to convey to the citizens my sincere appreciation of the cordiality of the welcome they have extended to Her Excellency Lady Minto and myself on our arrival at the capital of the Indian Empire.

I thank you too, Mr. Chairman, for your reference to my past services, and I can assure you that nothing is more gratifying to me on my assumption of office than to hear from you that I have the good wishes of the people of India.

The century which has elapsed since my ancestor administered the government of this country has witnessed, as you say, not only great territorial additions to the Empire, but a vast increase in material wealth and in intellectual resource, whilst you may well be proud of the development of the beautiful city of Calcutta, a development in which you will always have my cordial sympathy.

I thank you again, Mr. Chairman, for your kind expressions towards me, and I share with the Corporation of Calcutta their earnest hope for the welfare of the people of India.

ST. ANDREW'S DINNER.

[On the night of the 30th November His Excellency the Viceroy 30th Nov. 1905. was present at the annual dinner. This was His Excellency's first public appearance since he had assumed office, and there was a very large attendance.

Mr. D. M. Hamilton, Chairman, in a long and interesting speech proposed the toast of "The Viceroy and the Land we live in." His Excellency in rising to respond to the toast was warmly received, and spoke as follows :—]

*Mr. Chairman, Your Honour, Sir Francis Maclean, and Gentlemen,*—I must in the first place thank you for the reception you have given to-night to the toast of my health, and for the welcome you have so heartily extended to Her Excellency Lady Minto and my family.

To-night is the first opportunity I have had of meeting a Calcutta assemblage, and at the outset of my career in India I feel that it is impossible to overrate the value to me of the cordiality with which you have received me on my taking up my residence amongst you.

I have come, as your Chairman has said, from the Far West to this Distant East—from the dominion of Canada, with all its growing strength and future promise, to the great responsibilities and mysteries of India, to an administration full of problems interwoven with the traditions of the past and the aspirations of the future.

I have been but a very few days amongst you, and I am grateful to your Chairman for the insight he has given me in such eloquent terms into the public questions and the public opinion of the day of which I have so much to learn. and which I am already well aware that his broad-minded and philanthropic energy has so largely influenced and directed,

But, Gentlemen, our patron Saint, whose festival we are met to celebrate, would hardly, I think, advise me as yet to attempt to follow your Chairman across the political peat-hags over which he moves with such practised skill. My acquaintance with St. Andrew has, I may say, been somewhat intimate. I have rarely failed to accept his



*St. Andrew's Dinner.*

offers of hospitality, and the social circles to which, on the 30th of November, he has annually introduced me, I have found to be of a somewhat convivial nature with a taste for haggis monopolizing the attention of the guests and excluding the consumption of those political dishes supposed at other times to be so palatable to the canny Scot. And on the 30th of November I personally feel totally unable to dissociate myself from the teachings of good St. Andrew. I feel only that I have come amongst you this evening as a brither Scot, and looking around me, I cannot but think that your Chairman, or His Honour, or Sir F. Maclean, or possibly this whole powerful Scottish triumvirate, have sent round the fiery Cross—for surely this is a gathering of the clans, devoid, I am afraid, of the prospective plunder of old days, but simply a gathering of Scotsmen in a distant land who feel that they are justly proud of the race from which they spring, who have met together to shake each other by the hand and talk of the old north country and the homes far away amongst the banks and braes of Bonnie Scotland.

Mr. Chairman, you have done me the honour to couple, with the toast of my health, that of the land we live in—a land we have at present made our home—a land to which our ancestors devoted their best abilities and which we must endeavour to serve to the best of ours—a land peopled with a diversity of races, of different creeds, whose wants it is our duty to study, and whose future welfare must be our dearest aim.

Gentlemen, your Chairman is not a greater believer than I am in the necessity of rest and security for the development and happiness of the people of India. That development and that happiness I hope with him will be the base of India's future history, but we must never forget, no country can afford to forget, that the security of such a base can be guaranteed only by the strong arm that defends it,

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*Address from the Mysore Family.*

Mr. Chairman, as the years go by, and as we severally wander back to Scotland, we may well repeat to ourselves Scott's beautiful lines :—

Breathes there the man with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said,—  
This is my own, my native land,  
Whose heart hath ne'er within him burned,  
As home his footsteps he has turned,  
From wandering on a foreign strand ?

and I hope that we may look back on India, not as a land of regrets, but as a land where we have worked earnestly and loyally and with some success for the good of her people. (*Loud applause.*)

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ADDRESS FROM THE MYSORE FAMILY.

[The members of the Mysore Family and the descendants 1st Dec. 1905. of Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan presented an address of welcome to His Excellency the Viceroy at Government House on the 1st December, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

It is a great pleasure to me to receive you here to-day and to hear the kindly welcome you offer to myself and to my family on our arrival in India. It is also very pleasant to me to meet the descendants of great soldiers and statesmen such as your ancestors were. I need not tell you how often I have read of your feats of arms in the old days, and I am glad also to know that you still bear in mind the services of my ancestor Lord Minto, who administered the Government of India early in the last century. I shall always look forward to doing all that I can to show my interest in the Mysore family. I can only again tell you how pleased I am to receive the members of this family here to-day, and how glad I am to thank you for the very cordial words of your address.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

15th Dec. 1905. [In opening the proceedings of the first meeting of the Governor-General's Legislative Council at which the Earl of Minto presided after his assumption of office, His Excellency addressed the members as follows :—]

*Your Honour and Gentlemen*,—As this is the first occasion on which I have the honour of taking my seat at this Council Board, I cannot let the opportunity pass without expressing to you the satisfaction it is to me to meet here to-day the Members of the Supreme Legislative Council. I hope that during my period of office we may together be successful in furthering much legislation that may tend to the welfare and happiness of the people of this country. I feel sure that I shall be able at all times to rely fully upon the benefit of your valuable assistance and advice.

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ADDRESS FROM THE CALCUTTA TRADES  
ASSOCIATION.

18 Dec. 1905. [His Excellency the Viceroy received an address of welcome from the members of the Trades Association on the 18th December, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—It is a great pleasure to me to receive an address from so influential a body as the Calcutta Trades Association. I am glad to hear from you that the services of the first Earl of Minto have not been forgotten by the citizens of this great city. It is only lately that my notice has been drawn to an address presented to him by the merchants of Calcutta congratulating him on the capture of Mauritius—the possession of that island by France having long constituted a dangerous menace to our British Indian trade—and it is curious that nearly 100 years later I should be receiving a deputation from an Association so deeply interested in the trade of to-day, and whose members can justly look back with pride on the magnificent development that has been brought about by British energy since my

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*Address from the Anglo-Indian Association.*

ancestor received the thanks of the merchants of Calcutta. I am well aware to what a great extent the strength and prosperity of any country depends upon commercial influences, and I hope that the rapidly growing over-sea trade of India may be accompanied with a like development of its local industries and its many splendid resources. I share with you also in your apprehension of the evils of over-insurance, and yet I am afraid that, as long as human passions and ambitions play a part in the policy of the nations of the world, the premiums to be paid will depend upon the value of the stock to be insured.

I shall watch with interest the scheme under consideration for the improvement of Calcutta, as to which I shall always be ready to give my heartiest support.

I thank you sincerely on behalf of Lady Minto and myself for the cordial words of your address, and we look forward with pleasure to the time we hope to spend in India where our reception has been marked with so many expressions of welcome.

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ADDRESS FROM THE ANGLO-INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

[An address of welcome was presented by the Association on the 18th Dec. 1905. 18th December at Government House, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I beg to thank you for the address which you have presented to me on behalf of the Anglo-Indian Association, and for the congratulations you have extended to me on my assumption of the high office to which His Majesty the King-Emperor has done me the honour to appoint me. In this country, where I know that the great majority of the British community come to devote the best years of their life to the service of His Majesty and for the general welfare of the people of India, but who with few exceptions look forward to returning to spend their remaining days in the motherland from which they sprang, it is of

*Address from the British Indian Association.*

all the more interest to me to meet those who like you have made India your permanent home. I hope that the fact of your having done so may be of much use in giving an insight into the many wants of the people of this country ; and I shall always be ready at any time to listen with interest to statements which you may think right to put before me on behalf of the community you represent.

I offer you, Gentlemen, the best thanks of Lady Minto and myself for the welcome you have extended to us, the cordiality of which is, I assure you, very acceptable to us at the commencement of our residence in the Indian Empire.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

18th Dec. 1905. [The Association presented an address of welcome to the Viceroy at Government House on the 18th December. His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Maharajah and Gentlemen*,—I beg to thank you for the kindly words of the address you have presented to me on behalf of the members of your very influential British Indian Association on my assumption of the office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India. The reference you so kindly make to my services in the great dominion of Canada are very encouraging to me at the commencement of my period of office in India, and I should indeed be grateful if the experience I have gained in the Distant West should enable me to further the welfare and the happiness of the subjects of the King-Emperor in the Far East. India, as you have so gracefully said in the words of your address, has been made known to me by much family history, and I now consider myself fortunate indeed in being present at Calcutta to witness a repetition of these expressions of loyalty to the Prince and Princess of Wales with which this country has already resounded throughout her length and breadth. I

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*Address from the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce.*

hope that, as years go by, it may be possible for me to gain an insight into the feelings and sentiments of the people of India, and I shall look for no greater reward than to feel that during my sojourn amongst you her resources have continued to develop and that she is secure in the promise of ever-increasing prosperity. I can assure you, Gentlemen, Lady Minto and I are both sincerely grateful to you for your kind expressions towards us, and for the cordiality of the welcome you have extended to us.

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ADDRESS FROM THE BENGAL NATIONAL CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE.

[His Excellency the Viceroy received an address of welcome from a deputation of the Chamber, who presented the address at Government House on the 22nd December. 22nd Dec. 1905.]

The address among other things referred briefly to the benefits of British rule and the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. It also cherished a hope that His Excellency would recognise in the altered circumstances of the country the need of a comprehensive system of Local Self-Government for its administration.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you for your address and for the cordiality of the welcome extended to me by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce. Representing, as you do, the great interests of the Indian mercantile community, it is very pleasing to me to recognise your gratitude to the British Throne, the strength of whose sheltering arm has always been present to protect the vast commerce of the British possessions. I know well, also, that the Indian merchants of Bengal will enthusiastically share in the demonstrations of loyalty and affection so soon to be offered to the Prince and Princess of Wales by this great city. Though the objects of your Society are, I am aware, unconnected with political life, the commercial interests which you represent must always make their influence felt in the

*Address from the Mohammedan Literary Society.*

history of your country. It lies with you to do much to assist the amelioration of many national wants, whilst it rests with you, to a great extent, to further that spread of technical education which is every day becoming more necessary in competition with commercial rivals ; whilst the control and direction of the *swadeshi* movement on sound lines may well afford your Society ample opportunity for consideration. A devotion to the development of the marvellous resources of this great country, which are so open to a Society such as yours, will, I feel sure, afford you many opportunities of furthering that commercial welfare upon which the prosperity of all countries so largely depends.

I thank you, Gentlemen, sincerely on behalf of Lady Minto and myself for the kind words of your address, which are very gratifying to us on our taking up our residence at Calcutta.

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ADDRESS FROM THE MOHAMMEDAN LITERARY  
SOCIETY.

22nd Dec. 1905. [The Society presented an address of welcome at Government House on the 22nd December.

The address bore testimony to the advantages of British rule in India and drew attention to the high opinion entertained of the Society by preceding Viceroys and high officials. It also referred to the good work done, particularly as regards education, by the Society and of the usefulness of the conversaziones that it held. It was also hoped that His Excellency would continue to extend to the Society the patronage that it had enjoyed from his predecessors.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen*,—It is a very great pleasure to me to receive you here this morning, representing, as you do, not only the Mohammedans of Calcutta but of India generally. An address emanating from a Society such as yours is, I can assure you, very welcome to an administrator who has so lately taken up the reins of office.

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*Address from the Mohammedan Literary Society.*

I am well aware of the excellent work which has been done by your Society since it was founded nearly 50 years ago by its distinguished Secretary, Nawab Bahadur Abdul Latif, to whom not only the Mohammedan population but the whole thinking community of India owe a debt of gratitude; for I believe, Gentlemen, that efforts such as his—efforts your Society has so ably supported—though devoted primarily to Mohammedan interests cannot but shed a beneficial light on all educational questions, and will prove a guiding star to many, no matter of what race or creed, who are striving their best to raise the educational standard of the people of India.

Disassociated as your Society is from the struggles of political warfare, you can claim nevertheless to have done much already to direct the higher life of the people on broad lines which, whilst affectionately guarding the wealth of your own Oriental literature, have at the same time recognised the value of Western education in the solution of the many problems surrounding the development of modern culture and civilisation.

Much has, I know, been done directly through Mohammedan effort. The College at Aligarh, the noble work of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, will always bear evidence of broad-minded Musalman thought, and the recent movement for the encouragement of the study of Arabic gives further proof of a care for Eastern culture. But from the point of view of an administrator, from which perhaps I naturally address you, the highest value of your efforts would appear to be deeply based on the example you are so ably demonstrating of a liberal appreciation of the combined educational advantages of the East and West. Aims such as yours have well deserved the confidence and the appreciation they have always received from Government, and I feel that I may rest assured of receiving from you the able assistance and advice which your Society is so competent to give.



*Address from the Marwari Association.*

I thank you, Gentlemen, for your kind allusions to my service in Canada. I hope that, though conditions here are in many ways very different to what they are in the great Dominion, still I may be able, to a certain extent, to do here what I attempted to do there—to make myself acquainted with the sympathies and wants of all classes of the people. It will be a great pleasure to me to continue to the Literary Society of Calcutta the confidence which my predecessors have always so gladly bestowed upon them.

I thank you, Gentlemen, on behalf of Lady Minto and myself very sincerely for the cordial welcome you have extended to us on our arrival in India.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE MARWARI ASSOCIATION.

12th Jan. 1906. [The Association presented an address of welcome to His Excellency at Government House on the 12th January.

His Excellency replied in the following terms :—]

*Gentlemen*,—It is a great pleasure to me to have this opportunity of receiving the Address of the Marwari Association representing the interests of the Marwari community, and I sincerely appreciate the cordiality of your expressions towards me at the commencement of my period of office in India. It is very encouraging to me to feel that my ancestor's name is known and respected by you, and I hope that perhaps I may have gained some slight insight into the hopes and aspirations of the people of this country by a study of his administration of 100 years ago.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for all you have so kindly said as to my own past services, and I look forward with hope to doing all in my power to assist the future of this country. I am well aware of the great share your community has taken in the development of many useful objects, and how much Marwari beneficence and business ability have done to contribute to the prosperity of India, and it has been a

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*Address from the Indian Association.*

great pleasure to me to see the well-earned recognition of a Marwari gentleman in the New Year's Honours List.

I feel that I shall always be able to look to your community for loyal assistance and able advice in the amelioration of conditions affecting the welfare of the people of India, and I trust that each succeeding year may hopefully indicate the ultimate conquest of famine and pestilence, whose ravages are so unfortunately constantly before us.

I beg again to thank you, Gentlemen, for your address and for all your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and myself.

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ADDRESS FROM THE INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

[An address of welcome was received by His Excellency at 12th Jan. 1906. Government House on the 12th January 1906.]

The address referred to the services of the first Earl of Minto and dealt particularly with the Partition of Bengal which had recently been carried out, and prayed that instead of this partition, Bengal should be raised to the status of a Presidency Government. It also referred to the agitation that had occurred in Eastern Bengal consequent on the enrolment of special constables at Rangpur, and concluded with a hope that the Viceroy would foster and promote the growth of native industries.

His Excellency replied in the following terms :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I beg to thank you for the cordiality of the welcome you have extended to me on my assumption of the high office of Viceroy of India, and for your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and myself at the commencement of our career in this country.

I value all the more the appreciative words of your address in that I know that they emanate from a body whose first rule lays down that the object of the Indian Association is to "represent the people, to help in the formation of a healthy public opinion on all questions of importance, and to promote by every legitimate means

*Address from the Indian Association.*

the political, intellectual, and material advancement of the people." I fully sympathise with the objects of the Association. Your first rule would appear to me to embody a recognition of principles which, if carefully fostered, must surely tend to the development of patriotic thought and to a general intellectual advancement in respect to the public questions of the day. I fully recognise your wish to express opinions on such questions, and I am equally ready to appreciate their value as emanating from an Association closely connected with the every-day life of an important section of the Bengal community.

On the present occasion you have placed before me your views as to the Partition of Bengal, which you believe to be shared by the whole population of the Province. You foreshadow what you apprehend will be the results of Partition, and I understand you to express a hope that some alternative scheme of administration may yet be found ; whilst you go on to allude to events which are said to have taken place at various places affected by Partition where public order would appear to have been threatened. Your Secretary in his note submitting your address has pointed out that your Association does not desire to obtain any expression of opinion from me, and I recognise the courtesy of your intention. But having consented to listen to your views I am afraid I cannot agree to receive them without comment. I must ask you to remember that I am here as an administrator whose duty it is to carry out a policy already approved by the Secretary of State, and I should be misleading you if I in any way appeared to encourage a hope of its reversal. And, Gentlemen, I am bound to tell you that the endeavours I have made since my arrival in India to acquaint myself with the history of that policy have been far from assisting me to the conclusion that the views you express are universally shared by the people of Bengal. I believe that the advantages and disadvantages of Partition have been fully and

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*Address from the Landholders of Bengal.*

carefully considered, and, whilst admitting that it may in a sense press somewhat hardly on local interest, it will to the best of my belief add ere long very largely to general prosperity and industrial development; whilst I shall be surprised if as years go on the benefits derived from it are not more and more recognised. The references in your address, Gentlemen, to unfortunate incidents said to have happened in Eastern Bengal, I can, I am afraid, with all respect, only accept as allegations, which you as British subjects are always at liberty to make good before the Law Courts: though I am bound to tell you that the ample information at my disposal would appear to prove without a doubt that the action deemed necessary by the executive authority of the province was fully justified.

You have done me the honour to allude to my past services in the Dominion of Canada, a country where I was fortunate in witnessing the magnificent development of her great internal resources; and now that I have come to live amongst you I shall be proud indeed if it becomes my lot to assist in the growth of the great internal industries of India. I am no opponent of *swadeshi*—it is only the abuse of the word to which I object.

I beg again to thank you for your address, and though we may not agree on some public questions, I can assure you I shall always be ready to receive the views of representative Associations such as yours.

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#### ADDRESS FROM THE LANDHOLDERS OF BENGAL.

[The Bengal landholders presented an address of welcome to the 16th Jan. 1906. Viceroy at Government House on the 16th January. The address referred to the first Earl of Minto's appointment as Viceroy at a time of stress and trouble, and, in welcoming His Excellency, referred to the agitation caused by the Partition of Bengal and prayed that the matter would receive His Excellency's due consideration. It also recognised the help given by Government to the cause of education.]

*Address from the Landholders of Bengal.*

It also referred to the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and assured His Excellency of their loyalty to the Throne.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I beg to thank you for the cordial words of the address you have presented to me on my assumption of the office of Viceroy of India and for your kind expressions towards Lady Minto and myself.

Being a landholder myself in my native land, it is a pleasure to me to meet my fellow-landholders of Bengal, and I may perhaps be capable of sympathising with them in the many difficulties which seem throughout the world to weigh upon the possessors of the soil.

I thank you, *Gentlemen*, for your allusion to the services of my ancestor, whose broad-minded views I have been taught from my boyhood to study and to admire.

It is only a few days since I expressed opinions on the political questions you allude to, and I cannot feel called upon to repeat them now.

You, as influential landowners, have many opportunities, outside the realms of political strife, of assisting the welfare of the people of Bengal. The Permanent Settlement to which you refer has no doubt done much for this Province, but with the benefits it conferred it brought also great responsibilities—responsibilities not only for the Government of the day but for the holders of the land. The present occasion is scarcely one on which I can attempt to deal with the momentous question of agriculture with which the future prosperity of India is so largely associated, and upon which the technical institutions you mention must in coming years exert so great an influence. I can only tell you that in these questions, affecting as they do the development of the resources of the soil, and the consequent happiness of the people, you may always rely upon my assistance and sympathy.

I feel sure that the landholders of Bengal are proud of the magnificent demonstration of loyalty and welcome

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*Address from the Central National Mohammedan Association.*

extended by the city of Calcutta to the Prince and Princess of Wales, and must rejoice to feel sure that Their Royal Highnesses have taken away with them a deep impression of the affectionate manifestations of devotion they have universally met with from the people of India.

I am very glad to have had this opportunity of meeting the landholders of Bengal, and I sincerely appreciate the kind words of their address.

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ADDRESS FROM THE CENTRAL NATIONAL  
MOHAMMEDAN ASSOCIATION.

[The Association presented an address of welcome which was 16th Jan. 1906. received by His Excellency at Government House on the 16th January. The address made a reference to the origin and constitution of the Association, and stated that a memorial was about to be submitted to the Government of India on the subject of the present administration of the law relating to *wakf* properties. It also referred to the advance of education among the Mohammedan community.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

I am very glad to be able to-day to receive the members of the Central National Mohammedan Association. All the more so because it is the oldest Mohammedan Association in Calcutta, and I thank you, Gentlemen, for the cordial welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself on behalf of the community you represent.

The objects of your Association are, I understand, to promote by all constitutional means the welfare of the Musalmans of India. Basing your efforts on loyalty to the British Crown, you hope, whilst cherishing the tradition of the past, to encourage Western culture and progressive development. You hope, too, that a moral revival may assist political regeneration. I am sure that such noble aims will always find sympathy and recognition from amongst all who are interested in the administration of the Indian Empire. But a moral revival that is to affect

*Address from the Talukdars of Oudh.*

political life must, to a great extent, I would almost say entirely, find its origin in your own homes. It is on the early training of your children that you must depend for the formation of the character which must so largely shape their future course in the battle of life, a battle that is becoming more strenuous every day, amidst the rivalry of the nations of the world, and where the existence of that individuality of men and women, which should lead them to success, will always largely emanate from the precepts of their early home life. And it is the woman, the mother, who does so much to form the character of the home. I cannot but think that on the recognition of her educational requirements by the leaders of thought in India the intellectual and national future of this country largely depends.

I recognize the great objects you have in view, and I do not hesitate to suggest what appears to me to be the first means by which you may obtain them.

You have my sincere good wishes in the work you have undertaken, and I thank you again, Gentlemen, for the appreciative words of your address.

## ADDRESS FROM THE TALUKDARS OF OUDH.

23rd Jan. 1906. [His Excellency received an address of welcome from the Talukdars at Government House on the 23rd January.

The address acknowledged the benefits of British rule and assured their loyalty to the Throne. It also hoped that the Viceroy would be able to visit Lucknow.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you very heartily for your address and for your reference to my administration in Canada, which I sincerely appreciate. It is very pleasing, too, for me to hear that the memory of my ancestor is still respected amongst you. I am all the more glad to receive you to-day, Gentlemen, because I recognise in you the representatives of those landed estates from which the strength

*Address from the Talukdars of Oudh.*

of every country so largely emanates. Great estates, as I am sure you know, bring with them not only large revenues but responsibilities—responsibilities which perhaps those unacquainted with the many calls upon landed proprietors cannot always fully comprehend—whilst upon the proper administration of those estates depends the health and happiness of the tillers of the soil, who form so great a portion of the population of the people of India. I know that the Talukdars of Oudh have fully realised the duties their possessions have entailed upon them. They have appreciated British administration and have loyally shared in the development of their country. It will be, I believe, exactly fifty years on the 12th of February that Oudh came under British rule, and the Talukdars may surely look back with satisfaction on the years that have passed. They may justly feel proud that the part they themselves have played has gained for them the trust and respect of their fellow-countrymen and has established them as an influential factor in the every-day life of the population. I hope, Gentlemen, that the younger generation that is springing up amongst you will follow in your footsteps, and that in the midst of the prosperity and luxury of the modern world so rapidly springing up around them they will always remember that success in that world will depend as much as ever upon the steadfastness of purpose and sterling qualities which have distinguished their forefathers.

I much look forward, Gentlemen, to visiting the capital of your province and to the opportunity of meeting you on your own estates.

I beg to thank you again very sincerely for the kind welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself.

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# LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW SURGICAL BLOCK OF THE MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL, CALCUTTA.

3rd Feb. 1906. [The ceremony of laying the foundation stone took place on Saturday, the 3rd February. It was a brilliant and at the same time most impressive ceremony. The building is to be styled the Prince of Wales Hospital, as a memento of His Royal Highness's visit to Calcutta. The actual laying of the stone was performed by Mr. G. L. Anderson, Deputy District Grand Master of Freemasonry in Bengal, with full Masonic honours. Colonel C. P. Lukis, Principal of the College, made a short speech pointing out the reasons and necessity for the building, to which His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Mr. Principal*,—I have listened with the deepest interest to the explanation you have so clearly given as to the organization and objects of the Surgical Hospital, which is to add another block to the Medical College Hospital over which you so ably preside.

The foundation stone of that building was laid with Masonic honours by Lord Dalhousie nearly 60 years ago, and I have great pleasure in asking the Very Worshipful District Grand Master of to-day to perform the same ceremony, earnestly trusting that the prosperity and usefulness of the work which Lord Dalhousie inaugurated may always continue to characterise the future of the new Surgical Hospital.

[After the laying of the stone with full Masonic honours the Deputy District Grand Master presented to the Viceroy the trowel with which he had laid the stone as a memento of the occasion.

His Excellency then addressed the assembly as follows :—]

*Mr. Principal, Ladies, and Gentlemen*,—It was on the 30th September 1848 that Lord Dalhousie laid the foundation stone of the Calcutta Medical College. It was Lord Dalhousie's first public appearance before the people of Calcutta, and the ceremony was performed with Masonic honours—Mr. Grant was at the time Provincial Grand Master of Bengal—and with all the curious old world customs of the Craft which have shed such an interest over the proceedings of to-day. It is not quite my first appearance before a Calcutta public, but still one cannot but feel how curiously

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*Laying of the Foundation Stone of the New Surgical Block of the Medical College Hospital, Calcutta*

history is repeating itself, and that after a lapse of some 58 years the Calcutta public, the Masons, and the Viceroy are all again met together to celebrate the laying of another stone—the foundation of a building destined still further to develop the great work Lord Dalhousie commenced.

The original Hospital was founded for the sick poor of all classes and creeds in the city of Calcutta, and particularly for those afflicted with epidemic diseases, the money for the building being raised partly by public subscription, and partly, I believe, by lottery tickets—a machinery for securing funds of which I confess I know nothing—but which may possibly have afforded the financial possibilities of our modern bazars with which we are all no doubt so well acquainted. But there were munificent donors, too, to whom Calcutta owes much. Raja Pratap Chandra Singh gave Rs. 50,000, and Babu Matilal Sil gave the ground on which the Hospital stands, which was valued in those days at Rs. 12,000. Since then other blocks have sprung up around the parent building—the Eden Hospital, the Eye Hospital, and the Ezra Hospital, giving a total of 449 beds; and the building of which the foundation stone has to-day been laid, is to consist of 8 main wards of 10 beds each, and 8 private wards each for a single bed, or a total of 88 patients. It is, as the Principal has told us, to be the Surgical Block of the Medical College Hospital and will be built on the best modern lines, largely according to the able advice of Colonel Havelock Charles. It should have a great future before it—a future that we all hope may be full of benefits for Europeans and Indians alike—a future which we trust will not only directly do much for suffering humanity, but which will afford those opportunities for clinical instruction so invaluable to Assistant Surgeons practising throughout the Province.

The new Hospital has every claim on public support. Much has already been done for it by individual energy—

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*Laying of the Foundation Stone of the New Surgical Block of the Medical College Hospital, Calcutta.*

perhaps it is not generally known that Mrs. King, who I am told takes so warm an interest in increasing the comforts of the patients of the Medical College Hospital, has already collected Rs. 9,000 for the new block, whilst the splendid munificence of the Maharaja of Darbhanga has enabled the Prince of Wales to contribute Rs. 90,000 to its funds. (*Applause.*)

Besides this, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have been told of an addition to the Hospital—a paying ward for Indian patients on the Cottage Hospital plan—which will owe its inauguration to the sympathetic liberality of a Marwari gentleman from Rajputana—Seth Sheo Pershad Jhoonjnoo Walla—who has presented Rs. 30,000 to the Lieutenant-Governor and has promised Rs. 10,000 more if necessary. I believe it would be difficult to overrate the value of such a Cottage Hospital, affording as it will do to Indian gentlemen opportunities for private attendance without the necessity for family separation which is so apt to stand in the way of those who would largely benefit by the best hospital treatment.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would venture to suggest that, if the Local Government, the Hospital authorities, and the public agree with me, as I feel sure they will, the new Surgical Hospital should be known as the “Prince of Wales Hospital,” both in memory of His Royal Highness’s visit and His Royal Highness’s presentation on behalf of the Maharaja of Darbhanga, and that the Cottage Hospital should be called the “Rai Suraj Mal Bahadur” ward in memory of the father of its generous donor.

I hope the Very Worshipful District Grand Master will accept my best thanks for the duties he has to-day performed, and I can assure the Principal and the Hospital authorities of the interest Lady Minto and I will always be ready to take in the success of the great public work they have before them.

ADDRESSES FROM BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSO-  
CIATION AND BEHAR PLANTERS.

[During the Viceroy's visit to Behar in February, His Excellency 7th Feb. 1906. was presented with addresses of welcome by the Behar Landholders' Association and the Behar Planters. A Darbar was held on the morning of the 7th February at which the addresses were read. His Excellency made the following replies :—]

BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

*Gentlemen,*—I thank you very heartily for the kind welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself on this our first visit to Behar, and I am very glad to have this opportunity of receiving an address from the Behar Landholders' Association representing, as you say, a landed aristocracy possessing a great stake in the country. The hospitality of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor has placed a charming Government House at our disposal and has enabled us to see something of your district, so full of the history of the past. I see that in your address you allude to some former words of mine expressing sympathy with your brother landholders of Bengal, and I can assure you, Gentlemen, it will always be a pleasure to me to meet with the owners of the soil and talk over the many questions which must be common to landed proprietors all the world over.

Your Association has now been in existence for a good many years, and I know it aims not only at forwarding the interests of the landholder in Behar but at developing all measures for the general improvement of the province. The Maharaja of Darbhanga is your President, and your Vice-President is the Maharaja of Gidhaur, and under their able guidance and with their great knowledge of local requirements you may feel very sure of success. Your Association has already attained much distinction. It has twice been accorded the privilege of nominating a Member of the Bengal Legislative Council, and it has encouraged contributions to important public objects, such as the relief

*Address from Behar Landholders' Association.*

of the widows and orphans of soldiers killed in the Afghan War during 1878-79, the Famine Relief Fund, and the Victoria Memorial, but it is in your knowledge of the requirements not only of the owners but of the tillers of the soil that we ought, I think, to hope for the greatest result. You in Behar have experience as to the management of great estates; you have before you the position of the ryot and the great zemindar, and your Association has it in its power to do much for the happiness and welfare of the former, whilst at the same time studying the interests and responsibilities of the latter. I have always myself believed the interests of landlord and tenant to be identical, the prosperity of one ought to mean the prosperity of the other. The landlord who disregards the rights of his tenants or the zemindar who ignores the rights of his ryots may possibly prosper for a time, but in doing so he is killing the goose that laid the golden egg and depriving himself of that solid foundation which has helped so many landlords to weather the bad times which always threaten those deriving a revenue from agriculture. I hope that here in Bengal the cadastral survey and preparation of a record of rights has already done much good, but I believe that the success of agricultural development depends most largely on the maintenance of friendly relations between the tillers and owners of the land and on the endeavours of proprietors to benefit from the valuable results which should accrue from such establishments as the Research Institute at Pusa and the knowledge which should in the future be available from graduates from the Pusa Agricultural College. I do not know that the generous donation towards this object of Mr. Phipps, a public-spirited subject of the United States, has ever been sufficiently acknowledged. It was Lord Curzon's foresight which influenced the direction of Mr. Phipps' donation, and I venture to say that the benefit of it will be appreciated more and more as years go on. To the best of my belief agriculture is likely always to be the

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*Address from the Behar Planters' Association.*

great industry of India, upon the prosperity of which the welfare of its people will so much depend, and who now have it in their power to benefit so largely from the results of agricultural research which Associations such as yours are so well able to encourage.

It is very pleasant to me, Gentlemen, to recognise that the administration of my ancestor in India is not forgotten, and I thank you, too, for all you have so kindly said of my own services in another hemisphere. I hope we may all look forward to a period of peace and progress in India. I shall at any rate always watch with interest the efforts of the Landholders of Behar, and I hope that opportunities may be opened to me of becoming more and more acquainted with the landed interests of India.

I thank you again, Gentlemen, for the kind words of your address.

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ADDRESS FROM THE BEHAR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

*Gentlemen,*—I sincerely appreciate the kind words of your address and the cordiality of the reception you have given me on my first visit to Behar. Perhaps you will allow me to say that I have heard of the Behar Planters before this. I have heard of them as country gentlemen of the right sort and good men of business, and I think they will not object to my saying as hard riders and good sportsmen also. I know, too, that they have experienced hard times when the cultivation of indigo was not popular amongst the ryots of Behar, whilst in later years they have had to deal with a competition due to the manufacture of an artificial product which did much to cripple that monopoly of indigo they at one time seemed to possess. But I hope that their own good sense and energy has enabled them to overcome the difficulties which have opposed them, and that they may again look forward to years of increasing prosperity.

*Debate on the Budget, 1906-7.*

I was very glad to have an opportunity of seeing the escort of Behar Light Horse which met me on my arrival. You may well be proud of the contingent you sent to South Africa and which did so well there. Material such as that of which you are composed, drawn from men accustomed to the everyday experiences of an out-of-door life, will, in my opinion, always be invaluable to the leaders of mounted troops.

I am very glad, Gentlemen, of having this opportunity of meeting you. I hope that it will not be the last, and I thank you sincerely on behalf of Lady Minto and myself for the welcome you have given us.

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DEBATE ON THE BUDGET, 1906-7.

23th Mar. 1906.

[In the Legislative Council held at Government House on the 21st March, the Hon'ble Mr. E. N. Baker introduced and explained the Financial Statement. The discussion thereon took place on the 28th March, when most of the Members took part. The meeting was held in the Throne Room at Government House in order to admit of accommodating the large number of spectators that assembled. The interest of the Debate was heightened by the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale's attack on the Government in connection with Army expenditure. The discussion was closed by the President with the following speech :—]

I must in the first place congratulate my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Baker for the very lucid statement he has placed before us—a statement which I think we may all agree in accepting as distinctly satisfactory—all the more so that we are fairly entitled to recognise that the expenditure proposed for 1906-07 represents no spasmodic effort on the part of the Government of India, but that it is the continuation of a well-considered policy which the growing revenues of the country has enabled the Hon'ble Member to carry out. We appear to have no reason to imagine that we are under the influence of that intoxication known as a "boom" in the New World, followed too often by the

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*Debate on the Budget, 1906-7.*

depressing effects of financial dissipation. The speeches which we have heard from Hon'ble Members to-day all hold out hopes of a solid and assured financial future, the chief problem of which will, I hope, be not as to how and when we are to secure our revenue, but as to how and when we can best spend it.

I am very far from saying that we are free from trouble. We have famine and sickness with us still ; a partial failure of the monsoon and a further delay in the winter rainfall have told the inevitable tale in parts of Northern and Central India ; but still there has been no such misery as that of 1899 and 1900, and we may fairly hope that the money spent on irrigation in recent years and on the development of famine relief organisation may surely and steadily reduce our famine areas ; whilst, as the Hon'ble Sir Denzil Ibbetson has told us, the Government of India owe a debt of gratitude to the noble liberality with which the Chiefs have realised their obligations in their own afflicted territories. The plague, however, stares us gruesomely in the face and is ever reminding us of the efforts we are urgently called upon to make for the sanitary welfare of the people.

Yet on every side there is indication of progress and of development of which there is no better evidence than the increase in railway earnings, and the number of railways under construction, and with certain exceptions there is a general increase of revenue.

The net result is a surplus of 253 lakhs of rupees, 122 lakhs of which we propose to devote to the remission of taxation, the relief of local bodies and the assistance of administrative improvement. In a country of great undeveloped resources it must often be a question whether a revenue surplus should be in the main devoted to the further development of the country or to the reduction of taxation of its population. For my own part I believe that the future prosperity of India depends so largely upon the welfare of



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*Debate on the Budget, 1906-7.*

its agricultural population that relief in the direction we propose will have a widespreading effect and will as a consequence further that development in other directions which we are so anxious to encourage. Sir Denzil Ibbetson has given us an insight into the valuable work of the Department he so ably administers, and if, after so short a residence in India, I may venture to give an opinion, I cannot say how fully I agree with him as to what I take to be his views in respect to agricultural indebtedness and agricultural expansion. We all know the cruel burden the former entails on the agricultural population; but I doubt the possibility of the Government of India ever being able to pay off this debt, and, like the Hon'ble Member, I doubt the policy of their doing so if they could. I believe that co-operative societies, agricultural banks and carefully arranged systems of Government loans, coupled with the encouragement given to individual energy, will do much more to spoil the money-lenders' market and do it in a much more healthy way than any entire acceptance by Government of the debts of the agricultural community could ever do. Expert instruction in agriculture will, too, as years go on, undoubtedly conduce to the same success as has attended the scientific care which has done so much to realise for India the wealth of revenue contained in her magnificent forests.

But though I am inclined to recognise agriculture as the staple industry of the country, I am far from losing sight of the great commercial development and the rapid expansion of trade, of which the Hon'ble Mr. Hewett has spoken. The records of the Department of Commerce and Industry tell us not only of over-sea trade, the improvement of our harbours, and the establishment of commercial relations with other countries, but also of the interior industrial development of India, much of which is only as yet beginning and the possibilities of which are so enormous; and nothing in the speech of the Hon'ble Member is

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*Debate on the Budget, 1906-7.*

to my mind more important than that sentence in which he conveyed the assurance that the Government of India earnestly desire to encourage local enterprise, and that they mean to insist that in the case of articles required by Government which can be produced in this country at the same price and of the same quality as imported articles, the preference shall be given to local productions.

I am in thorough sympathy with all the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur has said in this direction. His contribution to the Debate on education generally has been most valuable, but in an industrial sense the attention he has drawn to technical education deserves our most careful consideration. Technical instruction in other countries is growing apace, though it is not so very long since the necessity for it was so generally admitted as it is now. Competition has forced it upon us. We must not lag behind. The wealth, the welfare, the strength of a country that would hold its own in the world must depend largely upon the employment of its manhood in the development of its own resources. But now-a-days, in these days of rapid and easy sea transport, and in the face of our system of open markets, the home producer and home manufacturer must be prepared to face foreign competition or to fail. I am afraid he cannot expect his fellow-countrymen for the sake of patriotism to buy his goods if they are inferior and more expensive than goods from other lands, and I say to the supporters of *Swadeshi*,—that much abused word—that if "*Swadeshi*" means an earnest endeavour to develop home industries in an open market for the employment and for the supply of the people of India, no one will be more heartily with them than myself. But if by *Swadeshi* is meant an inability to recognise the signs of the times, a mistaken desire to maintain industrial systems long out of date, to create false markets by prohibiting the people of India from the purchase of better and cheaper goods, it will have no sympathy from me.

*Debate on the Budget, 1906-7.*

The ancient hand-loom cannot compete with modern machinery. There are indigenous arts in India which I hope may be for ever preserved—the ingenuity, the characteristic skill of a people should always be dear to them; but the success of modern industries and the preservation of indigenous industries is becoming every day more and more dependent upon scientific and technical knowledge, and if the resources of India are to be developed by the people of India, such development must depend largely upon local enterprise, upon the investment of Indian money and upon a recognition of the absolute necessity of expert training. There is no lack of opportunity for such native enterprise which will well merit the assistance and encouragement the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur has so justly claimed for it.

I have ventured to deal only very superficially with the chief points raised in this Debate and with which the Heads of Departments have so ably dealt—points which chiefly concern the resources of India, its revenue, and the welfare of its population. But there is, on the other hand, the heavy expenditure we have to face in many branches of the administration, and chiefly in respect to the Army, to which the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale has taken such strong exception. I have listened to all he has said with the respect due to one who very eloquently represents the advanced views of a section of the Indian people—views which, though we may perhaps often disagree with, are the result of a study of the Indian political life of to-day and of a patriotic desire to share in the administration of public affairs—views which I shall always be ready to listen to and discuss. Recent events may at first sight appear to justify much of what the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale has said. Russia's reverses in the Far East and our alliance with Japan undoubtedly at the present moment minimise the dangers of our Indian frontier, but I am afraid I cannot follow the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale in his conclusion that these dangers

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*Debate on the Budget, 1906-7.*

have disappeared for ever. He has told us that the tide of European aggression in China has been rolled back for good, that the power of Russia has been broken and that her prestige in Asia has gone. I am afraid these are mere assumptions which I can hardly accept. I am afraid I feel much more impelled to consider what effect Russian reverses may have on the pride of a high-spirited military race, and I wonder in how long or in how short a time she may feel confident of recovering her lost prestige.

Mr. Gokhale advises us to hang up our military reorganisation till a more disquieting situation arises; that is to say, wait till the moment of danger arises before we put our house in order—and to trust to a military scramble towards efficiency. I hope that the danger of such military scrambles has at last impressed their risks upon us.

He has also referred to the position of the people of India in respect to the military services. The position is a difficult one, and in some points it is not satisfactory; but I do assert this, and I know my Colleagues will agree with me, that the position is in no way due to a want of appreciation of the loyal services of the magnificent officers and soldiers of the Indian Army.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has so clearly placed before us the view he takes of military requirements and military reorganisation that I need say very little. He has devoted a brilliant ability to the task of placing the Army of India on a footing of sound efficiency—an efficiency which can guarantee security, whilst he has reminded us that in the midst of a rising prosperity and increasing cost of living we cannot ignore the daily comfort of the Indian troops who serve us.

Military expenditure is necessarily heavy in respect to the upkeep of all great armies. The criticism of such expenditure is often short-sighted. The price paid for an army is the premium paid for the insurance of the country. The huge armies of modern nations are not due either to

*Address from the Lucknow Municipality.*

any tendency to over-insure or to the promptings of mere military ambition. They exist in the first place for the maintenance of peace, because nations know that on their armed strength depends their immunity from attack. No nation can hope to be great and prosperous without being strong amongst its fellows. Its wealth, the welfare of its people, its commerce, its investments, its interior development, depend upon its security from hostile pressure—a security guaranteed only by the efficiency of its military forces—by the power of the strong arm. As long as the whole world continues armed to the teeth, we must be prepared to pay for the safety of our existence. I hope we shall never be deceived into a false security.

It is pleasant to remember that Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, though they deeply realised the wants of the loyal population who so enthusiastically received them, visited India when its future seemed full of promise. I trust that promise may be fulfilled, and that ever-increasing revenues will help to solve the administrative problems which surround us, and will ensure the progress and happiness of the people.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE LUCKNOW MUNICIPALITY.

31st Mar. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy arrived at Lucknow on the 30th March 1906, having left Calcutta on the 29th for his Spring tour.

The next morning, in the grounds of Government House, His Excellency received an address of welcome from the Lucknow Municipality.

The address, which was enclosed in a pretty silver casket and read by the Hon'ble Rai Sri Ram Bahadur, referred briefly to the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales and to the establishment of a Medical College as a memento of that visit,

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*Address from the Lucknow Municipality.*

It also referred to the anxiety felt in regard to the distress existing in the Province.

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

I beg to offer my sincere thanks to the Municipal Board and citizens of Lucknow for the cordial welcome they have extended to me on my first visit to their city. I have long looked forward to visiting Lucknow, and am glad that I have been able to do so so early in my term of office.

I must congratulate you heartily on the visit of Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their Royal Highnesses were deeply interested in all they saw here, and I trust that the Medical College, which is to be the outcome of their stay amongst you, may prove an inestimable benefit to the population and a lasting memorial of its loyalty.

The people of the United Provinces have indeed every right to be proud of the energy and liberality which has so rapidly ensured the success of the movement they themselves inaugurated.

I assure you of my sincere sympathy in the distress which I know too well is afflicting a portion of the populations. I realise the difficulties an increase in prices must entail, and I know, too, that should occasion unfortunately arise you will do all in your power to mitigate the sufferings of your poorer classes.

Yet I hope that as years go on you may find that there is still much promise in the future and that the former prosperity of your city may be returned to it in double measure.

It has been a great pleasure to Lady Minto and myself to come amongst you to-day, and I again thank you for the kindness of the reception you have extended to us.

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## OUDH TALUKDARS' ADDRESS.

31st Mar. 1906. [After dinner on the night of the 31st March Their Excellencies drove to the Kaiser Bagh at Lucknow, where His Excellency was presented with an address from the Talukdars. The address was presented in a richly got up *Kharita* and made a reference to the first Earl of Minto's services to the Talukdars and referred to His Excellency's sympathies with landowners.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen*,—In the address of welcome you presented to me at Calcutta you very courteously expressed a hope that I might soon be able to visit the capital of Oudh, and it is a great pleasure to me to be able to realise that hope and to have this opportunity of being received by you in this Hall so full of the history of bygone days. I am glad to think, too, that Their Royal Highnesses were able to hear from yourselves the expression of that loyalty to the Sovereign which the Talukdars of Oudh have so carefully cherished.

It is deeply interesting to me to hear from you of the ancient connection of my family with the Province. I have been told that when my ancestor, Lord Minto, was in India, Nawab Saadat Ali Khan was the ruler of Oudh and that he was the best and wisest administrator the Province ever had, and it is not impossible that the two broadminded statesmen had many views in common.

I told you, I think, at Calcutta that as a landowner myself I could fully sympathise with you in the many responsibilities thrown upon you. People unconnected with the management of landed estates appear often to be incapable of understanding the difficulty of fulfilling the responsibilities the ownership of land always carries with it, but whatever these difficulties may be, I am sure that in every country the secret of success lies in the friendly relations which ought to exist between landlord and tenant, between ryot and talukdar, in the recognition that what is good for one is good for the other, and in that mutual assistance which can alone ensure general prosperity.

*Agra Municipal Address.*

I hope that the surroundings of this rapidly changing modern world will not impair the characteristic individuality of the Talukdars, and that the administration of their great properties will tend to draw their own interests closer and closer to those of the agricultural population.

I am glad indeed to hear from you, Gentlemen, that the noble words of Lord Canning have been justified, whilst you yourselves may well be proud of the influence your own sterling qualities have had in ensuring the success of his predictions.

I again beg to thank the Talukdars sincerely for the cordiality of the welcome they have extended to Lady Minto and myself on the occasion of our first visit to this beautiful city.

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AGRA MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

[During the course of his Spring tour the Viceroy arrived at Agra 2nd Apr. 1906. on the morning of the 2nd April. The Municipality presented an address of welcome to His Excellency in the grounds of the Circuit House. The address referred briefly to the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales and to the beautiful monuments of the city, and drew attention to the fact that the first Earl of Minto was the first Governor-General to take steps for the repair of ancient buildings. His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen,*—The cordial welcome of the Municipal Board and the residents of Agra is very gratifying to Lady Minto and myself, and it is a great pleasure to us to be able to spend a few days in your city so soon after our arrival in India. I heard much from the Prince and Princess of Wales of their visit to Agra, and I venture to congratulate you on the success of the reception your townspeople so loyally and enthusiastically extended to Their Royal Highnesses.

This is not my first visit to Agra. I was here many years ago, and returned to England deeply impressed by your historical monuments and the unrivalled beauty of the Taj, and it is pleasant now to look forward to reviving old



*Address from the Delhi Municipality.*

recollections and to seeing all this again with the many improvements which I am told on all sides have done so much for the artistic development of your surroundings. It is curious that I should be following in the footsteps of my ancestor, after a lapse of what must be nearly 100 years, for Lord Minto only came to India in 1807 and must have been here during the magnificence of the Moghal Empire; and though as you tell me, Gentlemen, its ancient splendour may have departed from Agra, the generation of to-day has succeeded not only to a legacy of unsurpassed Oriental art, but to a city whose growing trade and commerce are rapidly placing it in the first rank of industrial centres in India.

I congratulate the Municipal Board on the endeavours they are making to further increasing requirements. No labour will ever be better spent than that devoted to the supply of pure water and to sanitary organisation, and not only to sanitary organisation but to a general encouragement throughout the population of the meaning of sanitation—a disregard for which has, I am afraid, been answerable for so much misery in India.

Lady Minto and I are much looking forward to our stay in Agra and hope that other occasions may not be wanting to us in the future to visit its citizens.

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ADDRESS FROM THE DELHI MUNICIPALITY.

6th Apr. 1906. [On his arrival at Delhi on the morning of the 6th April, the Viceroy was presented with an address of welcome from the Delhi Municipality on the platform of the railway station.

The address referred to the extensive repair of archaeological buildings and hoped His Excellency would continue this work. It also showed that the city was in a prosperous condition. His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I beg to thank you for the welcome you have extended to me on behalf of the population of Delhi

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*Address from the Delhi Municipality.*

on the occasion of my first visit to this ancient city as the representative of our King-Emperor.

Many years ago I visited Delhi, and it is a great pleasure to me to return here again to renew acquaintance with the many archæological treasures of the Imperial capital of India. Much has, I know, been done to preserve your splendid buildings and their surroundings, and I can assure you it will always be my earnest endeavour to assist you in the care you are devoting to your unrivalled relics of Indian history.

I congratulate you on your commercial prosperity. As a railway centre, Delhi is possessed of advantages which its Municipality has fully appreciated, whilst every praise is due to the foresight which has rendered possible the relaxation of taxation in the direction you mention, and which I have no doubt has done much to increase the volume of the city's trade.

The further improvements which you have in contemplation for Delhi and its surroundings and the possible extension of the city itself all point to a well-assured future prosperity.

I am very glad to hear from you that, though partial failure of the rains caused some anxiety, your people have suffered from no severe want, whilst the fact that they are free from plague bears a high testimony to the efficiency of the sanitation in which you as a Municipality are so deeply interested.

I hope I may have many opportunities of visiting you during my term of office, and I beg to thank you again sincerely for your kindly words of greeting to Lady Minto and myself.

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## UNVEILING OF THE NICHOLSON STATUE AT DELHI.

9th Apr. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy had been asked to perform the ceremony of unveiling the Nicholson Statue at Delhi. This His Excellency consented to do, and performed the ceremony in the afternoon of the 6th April. His Excellency left the Circuit House escorted by the 18th P. W. O. Tiwana Lancers and was met *en route* by the Commander-in-Chief. On arriving at the northern gate of the Nicholson Garden the Viceroy was met by the Lieutenant-General Commanding, Eastern Command, the Major-General Commanding, Meerut Division, and the Honorary Secretaries of the Nicholson Statue Fund. The path from the north gate to the statue was lined by the Royal Garrison Artillery; guards of honour of the 1st Royal Irish Rifles and of the 35th Sikhs being posted on each side of the statue. The bands of these regiments were massed to the east of the statue. The 1st Royal Irish Rifles and the 35th Sikhs were formed up in a circle surrounding the statue, the guards of honour, the bands and the dais. Two representative detachments were drawn up along the edges of the path from the dais to the statue.

On His Excellency taking his seat, General Sir Beauchamp Duff, on behalf of the Committee, read the following address:—

*"May it please Your Excellency,*—Some three years ago it was represented to Your Excellency's predecessor, Lord Curzon, that no statue had ever been erected to the memory of General John Nicholson, and a suggestion was made that funds should be collected with a view to the erection of such a Memorial in this Garden.

"Lord Curzon was graciously pleased to approve of the scheme, and with the co-operation of Lord Roberts and of the late Sir Henry Norman, measures were set in motion for the collection of subscriptions.

"The appeal met with so generous a response, that eventually a sum of Rs. 47,000 was obtained and the commission for the work given to Mr. Thomas Brock.

"There exists no authentic portrait of General Nicholson, as he was in 1857, and the only reliable likeness of him at that period is to be found in a marble bust, executed, not long after his death, by the late Mr. Foley. It is noteworthy that Mr. Brock was Mr. Foley's Assistant while this bust was in progress, and it has now been adopted by the sculptor as his model for the head.

"We were able to procure the coat which General Nicholson wore and the sword which he carried on the day, the 14th September, on which he was mortally wounded.

"While the statue was under construction Lord Roberts, Sir Henry Norman and Sir Seymour Blane were good enough to visit the studio and to assist Mr. Brock with their valuable advice.

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*Unveiling of the Nicholson Statue at Delhi.*

"We have reason therefore to believe that, despite the long period which has elapsed since the death of General Nicholson, this statue bears an accurate resemblance to him.

"With regard to the site selected, Lord Roberts wrote as follows :—

" ' I need not say that I would welcome anything done to honour the memory of the grandest man under whom I have ever served.

" ' I like the site proposed in the Nicholson Garden, provided it will not be too much shut in with trees. It was there I last saw Nicholson before he received his mortal wound. I was standing on the wall close by the battery in which I served in the Ludlow Castle Grounds, watching Nicholson waiting at the head of his little column for the sound of the bugle to announce that the Kashmir Gate had been blown in.' "

"It is this moment which the sculptor has chosen in his representation of the distinguished soldier civilian, who is shown turning towards the Gate about to lead the final assault.

"It will be remembered that later on in the day Lord Roberts found him lying mortally wounded outside the Kashmir Gate. He died on the 23rd September 1857, and was laid to rest in the cemetery close by.

"We feel that there could be no more suitable spot for this tribute to the memory of John Nicholson.

"In the name of the subscribers we now ask Your Excellency to be pleased to unveil the statue."

His Excellency in responding to the invitation spoke as follows :—]

*General Sir Beauchamp Duff*,—I would venture in the first place to express to the Committee you represent my appreciation, in which I feel sure the public in India and at home will share, of the success which has attended the Committee's efforts to erect a statue of General Nicholson at Delhi.

My predecessor, Lord Curzon, took great interest in the scheme, the inception of which is due to Major Douglas, who whilst he was Deputy Commissioner of Delhi selected this site for the statue, and who spared no endeavour to obtain a likeness of General Nicholson, in which he received the sympathetic assistance of Nicholson's old friends and comrades, Lord Roberts, Sir Henry Norman and Sir Seymour Blane. Major Douglas has been fortunate, too, in obtaining the distinguished services of Mr. Brock.

*Unveiling of the Nicholson Statue at Delhi.*

But it is to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the British and Indian Armies who are assembled here to-day that this ceremony must so deeply appeal. We are gathered here to do honour to the memory of a great soldier and administrator whose name is such a household word that there is no need for me to attempt to sketch his career. We all know the story of Nicholson's hard-fighting early days, of his subsequent frontier administration, of the march of his moveable column from Peshawar to Delhi and of the glorious close of that memorable siege. This afternoon much honoured veterans who shared with him the dangers and glories of many fights, the present representatives of the Corps who served under him in his last campaign, and regiments of the British and Indian Armies of to-day are all standing shoulder to shoulder close to the spot where he stood on the morning of the 14th of September, nearly 49 years ago, looking down upon the Kashmir bastion and the Kashmir Gate, waiting for the bugle to sound the advance, which he was so magnificently to lead. British and Indian troops stand here together as they have stood side by side on many a hard-fought field to do honour to the memory not only of a British Officer of the Indian Army, the John Nicholson of his British comrades, but to the memory of the beloved and worshipped Nikalsain Sahib, the revered leader of Pathan and Punjabi warriors. It is the statue of a great and chivalrous soldier, of a high-minded and straightforward man, that I have been asked to unveil—a man whose memory may be reverently cherished by soldiers and civilians of whatever race and of whatever creed.

[A battery fired a Brigadier-General's salute and the bugles sounded the "last post."]

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### ADDRESS AT DARGAI.

[During the course of the Viceroy's visit to the Frontier on his 10th Apr. 1906. Spring tour His Excellency was presented at Dargai with an address from the Sam Ranizai *Jirga*. The address was written in Pushtu verse, the translation of which is as follows:—

“In presence of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, Grand Master of the Indian Empire, oh! people, the time for happiness has come. How far shall I extol heavenly favours? The whole of the Sam Ranizai country has become milk and ambergris when the Nawab Sahib Bahadur (His Excellency) has come. The world is coloured with the blessings of your justice, even the scene of tyranny is not left in the country. You are friend to the poor, cherished of the poor, and kind to the poor. You are a spreader of justice bright and exalted; you are of good family, good titles, and good habits, kind appreciator, and of high class; in generosity you are the spreader of pearls; in justice you are just like Nausherwan. Your people (subjects) are in comfort on account of your many favours, your subjects are in peace everywhere. The fame of your equity has far travelled in the country, in Habul Badakshan, China and Kholan. Our territory has become green and full of light when Your Lordship has placed on it your blessed foot. The star of our fortune has come into motion by your coming, our direction has become auspicious. With our folded hands and with great respect we make a humble representation, if Your Excellency exalts us, that it is about twelve years ago since we are under the shadow of Government. All the Officers who are in the Malakand we submit to do them service with sincerity, with our heads and eyes we accept their order. We all are pleased with them in every way, in good manner with freedom we do our habitual affairs. Government has done no interference; our old customs are as they were, every man is happy and pleased with the Government. We make our first representation that this should continue for ever, and our country be exempted from law, oh! you of exalted dignity! Our second representation is this that the proposals for the Swat Canal, which are in hand, Your Excellency may do us kindness in bringing it out. All the people will be uttering blessing for it. We the poor people have this third request to make that the train stays for the night at Mardan. If the stay for the night is sanctioned at Dargai much good is thought of, in this there will be much gain to the Government, also the poor travellers will be relieved of trouble. Our fourth request is that the broad-gauge line be put so that the profit to trade should be two-fold. We hope that these requests will be granted. We have placed our hands of respect on our breast.”

His Excellency made no reply.]

## ADDRESS FROM THE PESHAWAR MUNICIPALITY.

14th Apr. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy was presented with a joint address from the representatives of the North-West Frontier Province and the Municipal Committee of Peshawar on the morning of the 14th April in the new Victoria Memorial Hall where a large gathering had assembled.

The address was read by Khan Bahadur Abdul Gaffur Khan and presented in a beautiful silver casket. The address referred to the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, and it also contained a reference to the Hall in which it was presented as having been built to commemorate the reign of the late Queen and concluded by asking the Viceroy to declare the Hall open.

In reply His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you heartily for the reception you have extended to me, on my first visit as the representative of the King-Emperor to your capital, whilst the words of your address carry all the greater weight as emanating both from the representatives of the North-West Frontier Province and the Municipal Commissioners of Peshawar City.

The North-West Frontier, full as it is of stirring history, has always had a deep interest for me, and I rejoice that on the occasion of my first official visit to you, I have seen outstretched before me the promise of an unrivalled harvest.

Lady Minto and I will, I assure you, always remember the cordiality of the welcome you have given us ; we share with you in your hope for the prosperity of this Borderland, and trust that it may enjoy the blessings of peace and plenty for many a year to come.

And it is not only in respect to local production that we have reason to feel satisfied, for the able and enlightened policy of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan has also done much to increase the trade of British India with our neighbours to the north.—a trade of great value to India not only commercially but in respect to that friendly intercourse which it so naturally encourages. We cannot

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*Address from the Peshawar Municipality.*

but feel, too, that His Highness's recent visit to his border territories, and his personal acquaintance with our mutual frontier will assist His Highness in the very friendly inclination he has shown to co-operate with us in securing the welfare and tranquillity of the frontier tribes.

I must congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the success of the visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales, who I know carried away with them vivid impressions of the reception they met with here, and of the beautiful surroundings of Peshawar.

To-day you have done me the honour of presenting me with your address in the Hall which is to commemorate the reign of our greatest Queen-Empress—Queen Victoria. Private subscriptions and Municipal funds have already been supplemented by a promised grant from Government, and it will be a great pleasure to me if further assistance should be forthcoming from the same source to promote the object you have in view. I hope that the building in which we are assembled to-day may as a provincial museum become a centre for the collection of that historical wealth of which the North-West Frontier is so largely possessed, and that it may afford a fitting home for many interesting treasures, whilst I am well aware that in Sir Harold Deane Peshawar has a friend than whom no man is better acquainted with frontier lore, and to whom it will be a real pleasure to develop the intentions of this Hall in the interests of the Province he so ably administers.

Gentlemen, I wish the Victoria Memorial Hall of Peshawar every success, and I now beg to declare the Hall open.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE SIMLA MUNICIPALITY.

23rd Apr. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy accompanied by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto, the Ladies Elliot and Staff, arrived at Simla on Thursday afternoon, the 19th April, at the conclusion of His Excellency's Spring tour. There was a large gathering at Viceregal Lodge to welcome Their Excellencies on their first arrival in Simla.

On Monday, the 23rd, the Municipal Committee presented His Excellency with an address of welcome. His Excellency received the address in the Council Chamber at Viceregal Lodge and, in reply, spoke as follows :—]

*Gentlemen,*—It is a great pleasure to Lady Minto and myself, on our arrival at Simla, to receive the very cordial welcome of your President and Municipality and of the residents of the station, and we much look forward to our annual residence in your beautiful surroundings.

To me our arrival here is all the more interesting, in that I knew Simla well,—I should be sorry to say how many years ago—before the days of the Viceregal Lodge, when Peterhoff was still in its glory, and when the attractions of Annandale were yet in their infancy.

I have come back to recognize many old landmarks and to marvel at the growth of the summer capital of India—and perhaps a comparison with old times brings home to me all the more the difficulties which must necessarily surround your Municipality in providing for the wants of an ever-increasing residential population. It is no easy problem to administer for nearly 40,000 people in a mountain district, largely dependent on its supplies from below, to guarantee its water-supply, and to deal with the sanitary danger of increasing congestion in the Bazaar to which you allude, but which, I hope, the Extension Scheme will do much to remedy.

Yet, notwithstanding the many difficulties of administration, I hope we all sufficiently appreciate the invigorating tonic of Simla mountain air, and do not forget our brethren who are loyally toiling through the long summer months in the plains of India.

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*All India Mohammedan Deputation and Address.*

I assure you, Gentlemen, I shall look forward to any opportunity of furthering the work of your Municipal Committee, and I know that you may rely upon the warm sympathy of Lady Minto in the welfare of your local institutions.

I beg to thank you again, Gentlemen, for the welcome you have to-day so heartily extended to Lady Minto and myself.

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ALL INDIA MOHAMMEDAN DEPUTATION AND  
ADDRESS.

[In connection with the Secretary of State's (Mr. Morley) speech 1st Oct. 1906. in the House of Commons on the Indian Budget, Maulvi Syed Mahdi Ali Khan (Mohsin-ul-Mulk), Honorary Secretary of the M. A. O. College, Aligarh, addressed a request through the Principal of the College asking His Excellency the Viceroy to receive a Deputation and address on behalf of the Indian Mohammedans, to draw the attention of Government to their rights.

His Excellency having consented, the Deputation were received at Viceregal Lodge in the Ball Room on the 1st October 1906. The Deputation numbered 35 and were seated in a horse-shoe facing the Viceroy's chair. His Excellency went round and was personally introduced to each member of the Deputation. The Khalifa from Patiala having asked for permission to present it, His Highness Aga Sir Sultan Muhammad Shah, Aga Khan, G.C.I.E., of Bombay, who headed the Deputation, read the address, which is as follows :—

*"May it please Your Excellency,*—Availing ourselves of the permission accorded to us, we, the undersigned nobles, jagirdars, talukdars, lawyers, zemindars, merchants, and others, representing a large body of the Mohammedan subjects of His Majesty the King-Emperor in different parts of India, beg most respectfully to approach Your Excellency with the following address for your favourable consideration.

"2. We fully realise and appreciate the incalculable benefits conferred by British rule on the teeming millions belonging to divers races and professing divers religions, who form the population of the vast continent of India ; and have every reason to be grateful for the peace, security, personal freedom, and liberty of worship that we now enjoy. Further, from the wise and enlightened character of the Government

*All India Mohammedan Deputation and Address.*

we have every reasonable ground for anticipating that these benefits will be progressive, and that India will, in the future, occupy an increasingly important position in the comity of nations.

"3. One of the most important characteristics of British policy in India is the increasing deference that has, so far as possible, been paid from the first to the views and wishes of the people of the country in matters affecting their interests, with due regard always to the diversity of race and religion, which forms such an important feature of all Indian problems.

"4. Beginning with the confidential and unobtrusive method of consulting influential members of important communities in different parts of the country, this principle was gradually extended by the recognition of the right of recognised political or commercial organisations to communicate to the authorities their criticisms and views on measures of public importance; and, finally, by the nomination and election of direct representatives of the people in Municipalities, District Boards, and—above all—in the Legislative Chambers of the country. This last element is, we understand, about to be dealt with by the Committee appointed by Your Excellency, with the view of giving it further extension; and it is with reference mainly to our claim to a fair share in such extended representation and some other matters of importance affecting the interests of our community that we have ventured to approach Your Excellency on the present occasion.

"5. The Mohammedans of India number, according to the census taken in the year 1901, over sixty-two millions, or between one-fifth and one-fourth of the total population of His Majesty's Indian dominions; and if a reduction be made for the uncivilised portions of the community enumerated under the heads of animists and other minor religions, as well as for those classes who are ordinarily classified as Hindus, but, properly speaking, are not Hindus at all, the proportion of Mohammedans to the Hindu majority becomes much larger. We therefore desire to submit that, under any system of representation, extended or limited, a community in itself more numerous than the entire population of any first class European power, except Russia, may justly lay claim to adequate recognition as an important factor in the State. We venture, indeed, with Your Excellency's permission, to go a step further, and urge that the position accorded to the Mohammedan community in any kind of representation, direct or indirect, and in all other ways, affecting their status and influence, should be commensurate not merely with their numerical strength, but also with their political importance, and the value of the contribution which they make to the defence of the Empire; and we also hope that Your Excellency will, in this connection, be pleased to give due

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consideration to the position which they occupied in India a little more than a hundred years ago, and of which the traditions have naturally not faded from their minds.

"6. The Mohammedans of India have always placed implicit reliance on the sense of justice and love of fair dealing that have characterised their rulers, and have, in consequence, abstained from pressing their claims by methods that might prove at all embarrassing; but earnestly as we desire that the Mohammedans of India should not in the future depart from that excellent and time-honoured tradition, recent events have stirred up feelings, especially among the younger generation of Mohammedans, which might, in certain circumstances and under certain contingencies, easily pass beyond the control of temperate counsel and sober guidance.

"7. We, therefore, pray that the representations we herewith venture to submit, after a careful consideration of the views and wishes of a large number of our co-religionists in all parts of India, may be favoured with Your Excellency's earnest attention.

"8. We hope Your Excellency will pardon our stating at the outset that representative institutions of the European type are new to the Indian people. Many of the most thoughtful members of our community, in fact, consider that the greatest care, forethought, and caution will be necessary if they are to be successfully adapted to the social, religious, and political conditions obtaining in India; and that, in the absence of such care and caution, their adoption is likely, among other evils, to place our national interests at the mercy of an unsympathetic majority. Since, however, our rulers have, in pursuance of the immemorial instincts and traditions, found it expedient to give these institutions an increasingly important place in the government of the country, we Mohammedans cannot any longer, in justice to our own national interests, hold aloof from participating in the conditions to which their policy has given rise. While, therefore, we are bound to acknowledge with gratitude that such representation as the Mohammedans of India have hitherto enjoyed has been due to a sense of justice and fairness on the part of Your Excellency and your illustrious predecessors in office, and the Heads of Local Governments by whom the Mohammedan members of Legislative Chambers have, almost without exception, been nominated, we cannot help observing that the representation thus accorded to us has necessarily been inadequate to our requirements, and has not always carried with it the approval of those whom the nominees were selected to represent. This state of things was probably, under existing circumstances, unavoidable; for while, on the one hand, the number of nominations reserved to the Viceroy and Local Governments has necessarily been

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strictly limited, the selection, on the other hand, of really representative men has, in the absence of any reliable method of ascertaining the direction of popular choice, been far from easy. As for the results of election, it is most unlikely that the name of any Mohammedan candidate will ever be submitted for the approval of Government by the electoral bodies as now constituted, unless he is in sympathy with the majority in all matters of importance. Nor can we, in fairness, find fault with the desire of our non-Moslim fellow-subjects to take full advantage of their strength and vote only for members of their own community, or for persons who, if not Hindus, are expected to vote with the Hindu majority, on whose good-will they would have to depend for their future re-election. It is true that we have many and important interests in common with our Hindu fellow-countrymen, and it will always be a matter of the utmost satisfaction to us to see these interests safeguarded by the presence, in our Legislative Chambers, of able supporters of these interests, irrespective of their nationality. Still it cannot be denied that we Mohammedans are a distinct community with additional interests of our own, which are not shared by other communities, and these have hitherto suffered from the fact that they have not been adequately represented. Even in the provinces in which the Mohammedans constitute a distinct majority of the population, they have too often been treated as though they were inappreciably small political factors that might, without unfairness, be neglected. This has been the case, to some extent, in the Punjab; but in a more marked degree in Sind and in Eastern Bengal.

"9. Before formulating our views with regard to the election of representatives, we beg to observe that the political importance of a community to a considerable extent gains strength or suffers detriment, according to the position that the members of that community occupy in the service of the State. If, as is unfortunately the case with the Mohammedans, they are not adequately represented in this manner, they lose in the prestige and influence which are justly their due. We, therefore, pray that Government will be graciously pleased to provide that, both in the gazetted and the subordinate and ministerial services of all Indian provinces, a due proportion of Mohammedans shall always find place. Orders of like import have, at times, been issued by Local Governments in some provinces, but have not unfortunately, in all cases, been strictly observed, on the ground that qualified Mohammedans were not forthcoming. This allegation, however well-founded it may have been at one time, is, we submit, no longer tenable now; and wherever the will to employ them is not wanting, the supply of qualified Mohammedans, we are happy to be able to assure Your Excellency, is equal to the demand. Since, however, the number of

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qualified Mohammedans has increased, a tendency is unfortunately perceptible to reject them on the ground of relatively superior qualifications having to be given precedence. This introduces something like the competitive element in its worst form, and we may be permitted to draw Your Excellency's attention to the political significance of the monopoly of all official influence by one class. We may also point out in this connection that the efforts of Mohammedan educationists have, from the very outset of the educational movement among them, been strenuously directed towards the development of character, and this, we venture to think, is of greater importance than mere mental alertness in the making of a good public servant.

" 10. We venture to submit that the generality of Mohammedans in all parts of India feel aggrieved that Mohammedan Judges are not more frequently appointed to the High Courts and Chief Courts of Judicature. Since the creation of these Courts, only three Mohammedan lawyers have held these honourable appointments, all of whom have fully justified their elevation to the Bench. At the present moment there is not a single Mohammedan Judge sitting on the Bench of any of these Courts, while there are three Hindu Judges in the Calcutta High Court, where the proportion of Mohammedans in the population is very large; and two in the Chief Court of the Punjab, where the Mohammedans form the majority of the population. It is not therefore an extravagant request on our part that a Mohammedan should be given a seat on the Bench of each of the High Courts and Chief Courts. Qualified Mohammedan lawyers eligible for these appointments can always be found, if not in one province then in another. We beg permission further to submit that the presence on the Bench of these Courts of a Judge, learned in the Mohammedan Law, will be a source of considerable strength to the administration of justice.

" 11. As Municipal and District Boards have to deal with important local interests, affecting to a great extent the health, comfort, educational needs, and even the religious concerns of the inhabitants, we shall, we hope, be pardoned if we solicit, for a moment, Your Excellency's attention to the position of Mohammedans thereon before passing to higher concerns. These institutions form, as it were, the initial rungs in the ladder of self-government, and it is here that the principle of representation is brought home intimately to the intelligence of the people. Yet the position of Mohammedans on these Boards is not at present regulated by any guiding principle capable of general application, and practice varies in different localities. The Aligarh Municipality, for example, is divided into six wards, and each ward returns one Hindu and one Mohammedan Commissioner; and the same principle, we understand, is adopted in a number of Municipalities

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in the Punjab and elsewhere, but in a good many places the Mohammedan tax-payers are not adequately represented. We would, therefore, respectfully suggest that local authority should, in every case, be required to declare the number of Hindus and Mohammedans entitled to seats on Municipal and District Boards, such proportion to be determined in accordance with the numerical strength, social status, local influence, and special requirements of either community. Once their relative proportion is authoritatively determined, we would suggest that either community should be allowed severally to return their own representatives, as is the practice in many towns in the Punjab.

“12. We would also suggest that the Senates and Syndicates of Indian Universities might be similarly dealt with: that is to say, there should, so far as possible, be an authoritative declaration of the proportion in which Mohammedans are entitled to be represented in either body.

“13. We now proceed to the consideration of the question of our representation in the Legislative Chambers of the country. Beginning with the Provincial Councils, we would most respectfully suggest that as in the case of Municipalities and District Boards, the proportion of Mohammedan representatives entitled to a seat should be determined and declared with due regard to the important considerations which we have ventured to point out in paragraph 5 of this address; and that the important Mohammedan landowners, lawyers, merchants, and representatives of other important interests, the Mohammedan members of District Boards and Municipalities, and the Mohammedan graduates of Universities, of a certain standing, say 5 years, should be formed into electoral colleges, and be authorised, in accordance with such rules of procedure as Your Excellency's Government may be pleased to prescribe in that behalf, to return the number of members that may be declared to be eligible.

“14. With regard to the Imperial Legislative Council, whereon the due representation of Mohammedan interests is a matter of vital importance, we crave leave to suggest:—

“(1) That, in the cadre of the Council, the proportion of Mohammedan representatives should not be determined on the basis of the numerical strength of the community, and that, in any case, the Mohammedan representatives should never be an ineffective minority.

“(2) That, as far as possible, appointment by election should be given preference over nomination.

“(3) That, for purposes of choosing Mohammedan members, Mohammedan landowners, lawyers, merchants, and

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representatives of other important interests of a status to be subsequently determined by Your Excellency's Government, Mohammedan members of the Provincial Councils and Mohammedan Fellows of Universities should be invested with electoral powers to be exercised in accordance with such procedure as may be prescribed by Your Excellency's Government in that behalf.

"15. An impression has lately been gaining ground that one or more Indian Members may be appointed on the Executive Council of the Viceroy. In the event of such appointments being made, we beg that the claims of Mohammedans in that connection may not be overlooked. More than one Mohammedan, we venture to say, will be found in the country fit to serve with distinction in that august chamber.

"16. We beg to approach Your Excellency on a subject which most closely affects our national welfare. We are convinced that our aspirations as a community and our future progress are largely dependent on the foundation of a Mohammedan University, which will be the centre of our religious and intellectual life. We therefore most respectfully pray that Your Excellency will take steps to help us in an undertaking in which our community is so deeply interested.

"17. In conclusion, we beg to assure Your Excellency that, in assisting the Mohammedan subjects of His Majesty, at this stage in the development of Indian affairs, in the directions indicated in the present address, Your Excellency will be strengthening the basis of their unswerving loyalty to the Throne and laying the foundation of their political advancement and national prosperity, and Your Excellency's name will be remembered with gratitude by their posterity for generations to come; and we feel confident that Your Excellency will be gracious enough to give due consideration to our prayers."

His Excellency replied to the address in the following terms :—]

*Your Highness and Gentlemen*,—Allow me, before I attempt to reply to the many considerations your address embodies, to welcome you heartily to Simla.

Your presence here to-day is very full of meaning. To the document with which you have presented me are attached the signatures of nobles, of ministers of various States, of great landowners, of lawyers, of merchants, and of many other of His Majesty's Mohammedan subjects. I welcome the representative character of your Deputation as expressing the views and aspirations of the enlightened Moslim community of India. I feel that all you have said



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emanates from a representative body, basing its opinions on a matured consideration of the existing political conditions of India, totally apart from the small personal or political sympathies and antipathies of scattered localities; and I am grateful to you for the opportunity you are affording me of expressing my appreciation of the just aims of the followers of Islam and their determination to share in the political history of our Empire.

As your Viceroy, I am proud of the recognition you express of the benefits conferred by British rule on the diverse races of many creeds who go to form the population of this huge continent. You yourselves, the descendants of a conquering and ruling race, have told me to-day of your gratitude for the personal freedom, the liberty of worship, the general peace, and the hopeful future which British administration has secured for India.

It is interesting to look back on early British efforts to assist the Mohammedan population to qualify themselves for public service. In 1782 Warren Hastings founded the Calcutta Madrassah with the intention of enabling its students "to compete on more equal terms with the Hindus for employment under Government." In 1811 my ancestor, Lord Minto, advocated improvements in the Madrassah and the establishment of Mohammedan colleges at other places throughout India. In later years the efforts of the Mohammedan Association led to the Government Resolution of 1885, dealing with the educational position of the Mohammedan community and their employment in the public service, whilst Mohammedan educational effort has culminated in the College of Aligarh, that great institution which the noble and broadminded devotion of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan has dedicated to his co-religionists. It was in July 1877 that Lord Lytton laid the foundation stone of Aligarh, when Sir Syed Ahmed Khan addressed these memorable words to the Viceroy:—

"The personal honour which you have done me assures

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me of a great fact, and fills me with feelings of a much higher nature than mere personal gratitude. I am assured that you, who upon this occasion represent the British rule, have sympathies with our labours, and to me this assurance is very valuable, and a source of great happiness. At my time of life it is a comfort to me to feel that the undertaking which has been for many years, and is now, the sole object of my life, has roused, on the one hand, the energies of my own countrymen, and, on the other, has won the sympathy of our British fellow-subjects and the support of our rulers ; so that when the few years I may still be spared are over, and when I shall be no longer amongst you, the college will still prosper, and succeed in educating my countrymen to have the same affection for their country, the same feelings of loyalty for the British rule, the same appreciation of its blessings, the same sincerity of friendship with our British fellow-subjects as have been the ruling feelings of my life."

Aligarh has won its laurels. Its students have gone forth to fight the battle of life strong in the tenets of their own religion, strong in the precepts of loyalty and patriotism, and now, when there is much that is critical in the political future of India, the inspiration of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan and the teachings of Aligarh shine forth brilliantly in the pride of Mohammedan history, in the loyalty, commonsense, and sound reasoning so eloquently expressed in your address.

But, Gentlemen, you go on to tell me that sincere as your belief is in the justice and fair dealing of your rulers and unwilling as you are to embarrass them at the present moment, you cannot but be aware that "recent events" have stirred up feelings amongst the younger generation of Mohammedans which might "pass beyond the control of temperate counsel and sober guidance." Now, I have no intention of entering into any discussion upon the affairs of Eastern Bengal and Assam, yet I hope that, without offence to any one, I may thank the Mohammedan community of the

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new Province for the moderation and self-restraint they have shown under conditions which were new to them, and as to which there has been inevitably much misunderstanding, and that I may at the same time sympathize with all that is sincere in Bengali sentiment. But above all, what I would ask you to believe is that the course the Viceroy and the Government of India have pursued in connection with the affairs of the new Province, the future of which is now I hope assured, has been dictated solely by a regard for what has appeared best for its present and future populations as a whole, irrespective of race or creed; and that the Mohammedan community of Eastern Bengal and Assam can rely as firmly as ever on British justice and fair-play for the appreciation of its loyalty and the safeguarding of its interests.

You have addressed me, Gentlemen, at a time when the political atmosphere is full of change. We all feel it. It would be foolish to attempt to deny its existence. Hopes and ambitions new to India are making themselves felt. We cannot ignore them. We should be wrong to wish to do so. But to what is all this unrest due? Not to the discontent of misgoverned millions, I defy any one honestly to assert that; not to any uprising of a disaffected people; it is due to that educational growth in which only a very small portion of the population has as yet shared, of which British rule first sowed the seed, and the fruits of which British rule is now doing its best to foster and to direct. There may be many tares in the harvest we are now reaping; the Western grain which we have sown may not be entirely suitable to the requirements of the people of India, but the educational harvest will increase as years go on, and the healthiness of the nourishment it gives will depend on the careful administration and distribution of its products.

You need not ask my pardon, Gentlemen, for telling me that "representative institutions of the European type are

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entirely new to the people of India," or that their introduction here requires the most earnest thought and care. I should be very far from welcoming all the political machinery of the Western world amongst the hereditary instincts and traditions of Eastern races. Western breadth of thought, the teachings of Western civilisation, the freedom of British individuality can do much for the people of India. But I recognise with you that they must not carry with them an impracticable insistence on the acceptance of political methods.

And now, Gentlemen, I come to your own position in respect to the political future—the position of the Mohammedan community for whom you speak.

You will, I feel sure, recognise that it is impossible for me to follow you through any detailed consideration of the conditions and the share that community has a right to claim in the administration of public affairs. I can at present only deal with generalities. The points which you have raised are before the Committee which, as you know, I have lately appointed to consider the question of representation, and I will take care that your address is submitted to them. But at the same time I hope I may be able to reply to the general tenor of your remarks without in any way forestalling the Committee's report.

The pith of your address, as I understand it, is a claim that, in any system of representation, whether it affects a Municipality, a District Board, or a Legislative Council, in which it is proposed to introduce or increase an electoral organisation, the Mohammedan community should be represented as a community. You point out that in many cases electoral bodies as now constituted cannot be expected to return a Mohammedan candidate, and that, if by chance they did so, it could only be at the sacrifice of such a candidate's views to those of a majority opposed to his own community, whom he would in no way represent, and you justly claim that your position should be estimated not

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merely on your numerical strength, but in respect to the political importance of your community and the service it has rendered to the Empire. I am entirely in accord with you. Please do not misunderstand me; I make no attempt to indicate by what means the representation of communities can be obtained, but I am as firmly convinced, as I believe you to be, that any electoral representation in India would be doomed to mischievous failure which aimed at granting a personal enfranchisement regardless of the beliefs and traditions of the communities composing the population of this continent. The great mass of the people of India have no knowledge of representative institutions. I agree with you, Gentlemen, that the initial rungs in the ladder of self-government are to be found in the Municipal and District Boards, and that it is in that direction that we must look for the gradual political education of the people. In the meantime I can only say to you that the Mohammedan community may rest assured that their political rights and interests as a community will be safeguarded in any administrative reorganisation with which I am concerned, and that you and the people of India may rely upon the British *Raj* to respect, as it has been its pride to do, the religious beliefs and the national traditions of the myriads composing the population of His Majesty's Indian Empire.

Your Highness and Gentlemen, I sincerely thank you for the unique opportunity your Deputation has given me of meeting so many distinguished and representative Mohammedans. I deeply appreciate the energy and interest in public affairs which have brought you here from great distances, and I only regret that your visit to Simla is necessarily so short.

[The Deputation then withdrew.]

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## DURBAR AT QUETTA.

[His Excellency the Viceroy left Simla on the 6th October 1906 10th Oct. 1906. on his autumn tour. His Excellency went straight through to Quetta which was reached on the 8th idem. On the evening of the 10th October His Excellency held a great Durbar, at which were presented to him the leading Sardars and Maliks of Baluchistan, chief among whom were the Khan of Kalat and the Jam of Las Bela. The Durbar was held in the Sandeman Memorial Hall. The Sardars and Maliks were seated in order of tribal and personal precedence. After His Excellency had taken his seat, and the Durbar declared open, all *Durbaris* were presented to the Viceroy. At the conclusion of the presentation His Excellency rose and addressed the Durbar as follows :—]

*Your Highness, Sardars, and Maliks of Baluchistan,—*  
It gives me great pleasure to meet you all here in Durbar to-day and to make my first acquaintance with the representative and leading men of this province, with whose history I am acquainted from the reports received from the Agent to the Governor-General and in whose welfare I take so deep an interest. I have been glad to observe that in the period during which I have held the Viceroyalty of India the history of Baluchistan has been undisturbed by any incidents of grave importance, and that the province under the sympathetic administration of its Chief and his subordinate officers has, on the whole, enjoyed a continuance of that era of peace and prosperity which was inaugurated by that distinguished statesman, Sir Robert Sandeman, 30 years ago.

The few remarks which I have to make on this occasion will, therefore, be mainly of the nature of congratulation, both to yourselves and to the officers who exercise political and administrative control within these territories. I have, in the first place, to offer my congratulations to His Highness the Khan on the improvements in the administration of the Kalat State. *Niazats* have recently been made under the advice of the Political Agent and the superintendence of His Highness's able and experienced political adviser, Kazi Jalaluddin. As Your Highness is aware, the

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Government of India take the greatest interest in the success and efficiency of your administration, and I trust that this may be an encouragement to you to persevere in the good work which you have begun for the benefit of your subjects and for the advantage of the Empire.

I may add, while dealing with this topic, that I have been much gratified with the development of the silk industry at Mastung, which was initiated by Major Showers, lately Political Agent in Kalat, a little more than a year ago, and in which I am glad to learn His Highness and the *Sardars* have taken a considerable interest. I wish every prosperity to this young industry, which will, I hope, prove of great benefit not only to the revenues of the State but also to the tribesmen engaged in it.

I have also been pleased to learn from my Agent, Mr. Tucker, that the administration of Mekran under the *Nazim*, Mir Mehrulla Khan, has been making steady and satisfactory progress during the past year. The good government of this tract, being as it is on the border of the Persian and British Empires, is, as you are aware, a matter of considerable moment to the Government of India, and I offer my congratulations to all concerned in the work on the successful results achieved.

I am glad to learn that, notwithstanding the prevalence of plague in Seistan, the trade on the Nushki route continues to develop in a satisfactory manner, and that the advantages of civilisation are thereby being extended even to the wilder tracts of this province.

I desire also to congratulate the Bugti and Marri chiefs on the manner in which they have conducted the affairs of their respective tribes. The ancient disputes between these warlike tribes are now, I am glad to learn, matter of past history, and such differences as still occur are settled in a peaceful and orderly manner under the orders of the political officer. This is a subject for sincere congratulation, which I am sure that the two chiefs will

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be the first to recognise, and I have every confidence that they will continue to abide by the advice of those who have their best interests at heart.

About the work of the Zhob Levy Corps I need say nothing further than that I have the fullest confidence in their courage and efficiency which has been testified to by their conduct at the attack on the Gadwana post and on other similar occasions. It has given me great satisfaction to be able to bestow personally on certain members of the corps the rewards which their gallantry has gained.

Finally, I wish to express my sympathy with the families of Nawab Bangal Khan of Zhob and Sardar Mehrab Khan Domki, who have died during the past year. Both of these chiefs have done good service to Government, and I, equally with the officers of Baluchistan, deplore their loss.

I wish, in conclusion, to refer to one matter which is a source of much gratification to myself and affects in some degree the future prosperity of Baluchistan, and that is the approaching visit to India of His Highness the Amir of Afghanistan. You are all aware that in the past the northern frontier of Baluchistan has not unfrequently been disturbed by border raids, and that owing to a want of co-operation between our officers and the Afghan officials the settlement of such cases has been a matter of some difficulty. I should like to say here that on the eminently satisfactory position of our relations with His Highness the Amir, of which His Highness's acceptance of our invitation to visit India is a signal proof, there is good ground for hope that the present state of affairs on this border may be materially altered for the better, and I entertain the belief that the visit of His Highness to India will result not only in a satisfactory decrease in the number of such border cases and the more certain punishment of the offenders, but also in the improvement of existing facilities for trade between India and Afghanistan.



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to the mutual advantage of both countries, a matter in which this province of Baluchistan is specially interested.

[The speech having been delivered in English, a translation was read out to the *Durbaris* by the Mir Munshi.]

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## BANQUET AT SRINAGAR.

9th Nov. 1906. [In honour of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Kashmir His Highness the Maharaja entertained His Excellency to a banquet on the night of the 9th November 1906.

The Banquet was held in the Banqueting Hall at the Palace, and over a hundred guests were present.

His Excellency made the following speech :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies, and Gentlemen*,—I sincerely appreciate the more than cordial terms in which you have proposed the health of Lady Minto and myself, and all you have so kindly said of Her Excellency and my daughters.

I cannot but feel how fortunate we have been to be able to visit Kashmir so soon after our arrival in India, and to have been able to marvel at its unrivalled scenery under the guidance of Your Highness.

I can assure Your Highness we shall never forget the magnificence of your hospitality, or the luxurious comfort of the beautiful camps you had prepared for us in your lovely valleys, glowing with all the brilliant tints of autumn. We shall never forget the courtesy of Your Highness's ministers and the universal attention we have met with throughout our tour. We shall return to India full of happy memories of Kashmir and its people.

But, Your Highness, I have visited Kashmir not only as a guest upon whom you have showered your hospitality, but as the representative of the King-Emperor, and I can not only convey to His Majesty your expressions of loyalty and devotion to the throne of Great Britain, but can testify to the able interest and care Your Highness is bestowing upon the government of your State and the welfare of its people.

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By Your Highness's kindness I have been able to see something of your excellently managed State hospital, whilst Lady Minto has been much impressed by the admirable management of other hospitals she has had the opportunity of visiting. Your museum, the examples of native industry, and your great silk factory have been full of interest for me. I have seen something of your State schools at Srinagar and in the many villages through which we have passed, and you have enabled me to make myself acquainted with that village government which is practically the foundation of your administration. I have had the great pleasure too of inspecting the troops which Your Highness has so patriotically contributed towards the defence of the Empire. I venture very heartily to congratulate Sir Amar Singh on the efficiency of those troops in whom he takes so great an interest. The duties thrown upon them for guards and escorts have I know been heavy during our visit, and I hope Sir Amar will tell them from me of my appreciation of the smartness with which they have turned out on all occasions.

Your Highness may be proud of the fact that your troops share directly in the defence of the frontier, a fact which brings me into full accord with the wish expressed to me by Sir Amar Singh that Your Highness's mountain batteries should possess the newest pattern of gun, the ten-inch screw guns supplied to His Majesty's Indian army. They may not be immediately available, but I can assure Your Highness that I will not disregard the eventual supply of them to Kashmir.

I also feel how fortunate I have been in meeting Your Highness's feudatory chiefs from the Gilgit frontier. I believe I am the first Viceroy who has been able to do so, and I value highly the opportunity Your Highness has given me of making myself personally acquainted with them, and seeing for myself the evidence of their loyalty and friendship.

Your Highness, Kashmir has the promise of a brilliant future before her, and I congratulate you on the possession of a

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Resident in Sir Francis Younghusband, whose distinguished ability will, I know, be so heartily devoted to the assistance of your State. The capabilities of Kashmir are becoming every day more evident. You have already before you a great electric scheme, a railway scheme, irrigation proposals, and agricultural development generally, which I am sure the model experimental farm, which I had the opportunity of opening, will do much to further. I wish Kashmir all prosperity and success, and I hope that perhaps it may be possible for Lady Minto and myself to return here again some day to witness the realization of great undertakings now in their infancy, and to renew the friendships I hope we have made in this beautiful country.

I will now ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to drink to a toast, in which I know you will all most cordially join, the health of our hospitable host, His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir.

[His Highness the Maharaja then proposed the Viceroy's health in the following terms :—

*“Your Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—*Before I perform the pleasing duty of asking you to drink to the health of His Excellency the Viceroy, I cannot but give expression to the feelings of happiness and pride which have been engendered in me by the kind visit which His Excellency has been pleased to pay to the summer capital of my State. I feel happy because His Excellency's visit affords me the opportunity, so devoutly wished for, of approaching His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor through his representative and assuring His Majesty of the ties of the most unflinching devotion and steadfast loyalty which bind me to the throne of Great Britain. I am at the same time proud because I feel that to Kashmir has been awarded the distinction of being selected as the State which should be the first to receive a visit from His Excellency after his assuming charge of his high office. It is no wonder, then, that I should feel supremely happy on an occasion such as this, but my happiness is doubly augmented by the additional honour which has been conferred on me by Her Excellency Lady Minto and the Ladies Elliot gracing Kashmir with their presence. Her Excellency's grace of condescension, added to her charm of manner and amiableness of disposition, have poured sweetness over every place or

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*Banquet at Srinagar.*

institution which has felt the influence of her presence, and I cannot sufficiently thank Their Excellencies for the gratification they have been the means of imparting to me. Ladies and Gentlemen, I would be wanting in frankness if I omitted to tell you how deeply impressed I have been by this visit of His Excellency, as it has afforded to me the opportunity of realising how deep-seated is the sympathy which His Excellency feels for me and my subjects of all creeds and classes and how absorbing is the interest which His Excellency feels in everything that is calculated to advance the prosperity and promote the happiness of the country which Providence has committed to my care. I take it as a marked indication of this kindly consideration towards me that I have been favoured with a Resident of eminent abilities and world-wide reputation in the person of my honoured friend and well-wisher, Colonel Sir Francis Younghusband, whose valuable advice and sympathy have already proved and will, I hope, for a long time yet to come be of immense benefit to me in the work of administration. Ladies and Gentlemen, I need scarcely assure you how great is the advantage I hope will accrue to the State by His Excellency's visiting Kashmir and making himself personally acquainted with its peculiar circumstances at a time when schemes of vast magnitude bearing on the economic condition of the country are under consideration. I will not detain you, Ladies and Gentlemen, any longer. I will conclude by giving expression to my hope that in the midst of the arduous duties of his high office reminiscences of their sojourn in the valley may linger. And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would ask you to drink to the health and happiness of His Excellency the Viceroy coupled with that of Her Excellency. His Excellency has had some cause for being satisfied with his visit to the State and that despite the meagre sport that Their Excellencies have had. I have no doubt that you will all respond to the toast with cordiality and enthusiasm." ]

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### DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE WALTER NOBLES' SCHOOL, BIKANIR.

22nd Nov. 1906. [During the course of his autumn tour His Excellency the Viceroy and party arrived at Bikanir on the 19th November, and stayed there for a week. On the morning of 22nd November Their Excellencies visited the Walter Nobles' School, on which occasion Her Excellency Lady Minto distributed the prizes.

The school was opened in 1893, and His Highness the Maharaja takes a keen interest in the institution. In welcoming Their Excellencies to the school, His Highness spoke as follows :—

*"Your Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,*—I am very grateful to Your Excellencies for so kindly consenting to visit the school and to distribute the prizes to the successful students, and I know I am echoing the wishes of the boys and all of us present here to-day when I say how much we appreciate this honour. Your Excellencies, these boys are the future soldiers of the King, as they have rightly styled themselves in the motto of the triumphal arch they have erected at the entrance of the compound, and I am sure this day will be treasured up in their memories when the Viceroy of India evidenced such an interest in their welfare and future career. This school was founded in 1893, and was named after Colonel C. C. M. Walter, C.S.I., for some time a popular Agent to the Governor-General. In Rajputana he was very good to me when I had typhoid fever at Mount Abu in 1889 and to whom I practically owe my life. Every effort is being made to turn out boys to be gentlemen and sportsmen in the strictest sense of the word, and who, when they grow up, will be able to help in the administration of their country, and who could look after and manage their own estates also in a satisfactory manner. In my time eight old boys of this school have joined the State service, and four obtained direct commissions as Native officers in the Indian Army. This and the large increase in the number on the rolls can, I think, be described as satisfactory symptoms of the usefulness of, and progress made by, the school. Further remarks from me will be unnecessary on this occasion, and so I would beg Your Excellency to kindly distribute the prizes."

After Her Excellency had distributed the prizes, His Excellency the Viceroy made the following speech :—]

*Your Highness,*—Before leaving I must congratulate you on the success of your school and on all we have seen to-day. It must be a sincere pleasure to you to have this striking

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*Banquet at Bikanir.*

incidence of the interest you have taken and the efforts you have made on behalf of the rising generation of the nobles of Bikanir. I am particularly glad to hear that you are encouraging manly exercises as well as teaching the boys ordinary bookwork. I am a great believer in the old Latin proverb—*mens sana in corpore sano*—and I am quite sure that to bring up boys to be gentlemen and sportsmen and to make high ideals part of their every-day life will give them the best possible equipment for fighting the battles of the world. Any boy who in his manhood fulfils the lessons of character taught to him in this school will surely be a credit to humanity. I hope that many of these boys intend hereafter to be soldiers of the King, and nothing is more fitted to make them good soldiers than the manly spirit which it is Your Highness's endeavour to implant in them here. Lady Minto and I are both very glad to have been able to attend at the prize-giving and to see for ourselves what is being done in the cause of higher education in Bikanir.

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## BANQUET AT BIKANIR.

[On Saturday evening the Maharaja entertained the Viceroy 24th Nov. 1906. at a State Banquet in the Lallgarh Palace. In proposing His Excellency's health His Highness referred to the eight years during which he had ruled his State as a time of great scarcity and trouble owing to low rainfall, but hoped that a big irrigation canal would in a short time run through the State.

His Excellency replied to the toast in the following terms :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies, and Gentlemen,*—The cordiality of the words in which His Highness has proposed the toast of my health, the magnificent hospitality with which he has received me, and the hearty welcome he has extended to Lady Minto and my daughters, make it very difficult for me to thank him as I should wish. I have been deeply impressed by the reception Your Highness and your

*Banquet at Bikanir.*

people have offered to me as the representative of the King-Emperor. I can assure Your Highness, too, that it has been a great pleasure to me to be able to visit Bikanir so soon after my arrival in India, for I have heard much of the State of Bikanir, and of the able administration of its Ruler. Yet, Your Highness, I cannot but feel that our visit to you has followed, I am afraid, too quickly upon a time of deep grief and irreparable bereavement, and can only ask you to believe in our true sympathy, which I hope we may be permitted to share with your people, and your host of friends.

I have listened with the deepest interest to all Your Highness has so eloquently told us of your hopes and anxieties for the future welfare of your people. I can well appreciate those anxieties. In every word you have said there has been evidence of your detailed knowledge of the requirements of your State and your earnest desire for the development of its resources, and I cannot but think that Your Highness looks with some pleasure on the difficulties before you, in the firm confidence that you will overcome them. Your Highness will not, I think, find fault with me for saying that you have at any rate one great advantage to your credit, youth on your side. You have still, I hope, many years before you in which to watch over the welfare of your people. You have already seen much of the world. You have served the Empire with distinction in foreign lands ; you have visited the centre of that Empire and have earned the personal esteem of its leading men ; and yet, whilst recognising what is good in Western ways of thought, you have in no way allowed yourself to become dissociated from the religion, the traditions, and the individuality of your own countrymen. (*Applause.*)

I cannot say how largely it seems to me the future of India depends upon the administration of its ruling chiefs. The rapidity of communication with the Western world is daily increasing. Western influences, some good and some bad, are gradually beginning to permeate Eastern life, and

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*Banquet at Bikanir.*

the social temptations of the West are becoming more and more within the reach of those who do not wish to resist them. Your Highness, I am very far from saying that at the present day either a ruling chief or any Indian gentleman should deprive himself of the advantages of the broader outlook of a world outside his own. We must move with the times and it is right to use the means modern science has afforded of seeing the world's wonders. But great possessions and great power carry with them great responsibilities, from which no ruler can long separate himself without jeopardising the welfare of the great charge which Providence has committed to his keeping.

Your Highness, I have sincerely to thank you for enabling me to see for myself what you are doing for your State. It is pleasant to hear from you of an increased revenue, increased railway mileage, mineral development, the encouragement of industries and far-reaching electrical schemes; to admire the many beautiful buildings your city possesses; to acquaint oneself with your system of education and to realise the administrative ability with which you have reorganised the departments of your Government; while I need hardly tell you of the pleasure it afforded me to see on parade those magnificent troops of which you are so justly proud, and who have already shared in the hardships and successes of more than one Imperial campaign. But, Your Highness, I know full well that behind so much that is encouraging there lurks that awful ghost of possible famine, ever ready to haunt the broad lands over which you rule. If the features of those lands were only a little different, if Nature had only been a little kinder, if water could only run more freely, how full of promise the future would be. And yet, Your Highness, I hope I am justified in believing that the future adaptation of those possibilities of irrigation which have already worked such miracles for India will triumph here also in Bikanir, aided by the energy of its ruler and the hardihood of its people.



*Durbar at Maler Kotla.*

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will ask you to join with me in drinking the health of our host—a host who has shown us princely hospitality and, I think I may say, too, unrivalled sport,—in the earnest hope that he may have many years before him to secure the prosperity and develop the resources of the State over which he rules with such distinguished ability.

## DURBAR AT MALER KOTLA.

26th Nov. 1906. [His Excellency the Viceroy and party visited Maler Kotla during His Excellency's autumn tour. The Regent entertained the party at luncheon, after which a Durbar was held, the Regent addressing His Excellency in the following terms:—

*"Your Excellency, Ladies, and Gentlemen,*—On behalf of my venerable father, His Highness the Nawab Mohomed Ibrahim Ali Khan, Bahadur, the loyal subjects of this State and myself, I tender you a most hearty welcome to Maler Kotla. Your Excellency, when I pause here for a moment to reflect how onerous, responsible and multifarious are the duties which a Viceroy has to discharge, and how many and pressing are the calls from the various quarters of this vast continent on his valuable time, the including of Maler Kotla in the Viceregal tour at the commencement of Your Excellency's rule in India fills our hearts with joy and awakens in us, in a most powerful degree, sentiments of pride and gratitude for the honour which Your Excellency's visit has conferred on this principality. The event of to-day will be looked upon as marking an epoch in the history of this State as was the year 1809, when, in the reign of Your Excellency's illustrious ancestor Lord Minto, this State first came under the British suzerainty, and the law of primogeniture was re-established. Our joy is doubly enhanced by the fact that Your Excellency is accompanied by your gracious consort, whose presence, together with her noble family, on this occasion has lent it an inexpressible charm, and whose very sympathetic and humane efforts in the cause of providing greater medical relief to the helpless members of her sex in this country are already creating a place in the hearts of the Indian people, a place which I can safely say will be second to none of that of her Ladyship's illustrious predecessors.

"I may be permitted to remark that this is the first occasion on which the representative of our august sovereign has honoured the

*Durbar at Maler Kotla.*

State by a visit, and as such it cannot but be a matter of pride and gratitude for us. Although Maler Kotla is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, State in the Punjab, the fact that its Chief owing to the unsatisfactory state of his health and condition has not been able for a long time past to give his personal attention to its affairs, and which necessitated the interests of its administration to the care and control of Superintendents, has, I am inclined to think, in some respects been accountable for the deference of this auspicious day in its history. But it is a matter of gratification for me to be able to say that their administration has been characterized by the introduction of two important measures which have conduced to increasing the usefulness of this State to the Empire and opening a new source of income to its own revenue. I refer to the creation of an efficient body of men, first raised as infantry in 1801, and then converted into Imperial Service Sappers and Miners in 1895,—a body which has already won for itself a name by rendering distinguished service during the last Tirah and China campaigns; and to the construction of the railway line through the State territory by the kind advice of Colonel Massy, who was then Political Agent,—an undertaking which, it is hoped, will prove a paying concern. Whatever the results of the administration of the State under the Superintendents have been, still, owing to the unfortunate absence of its Chief from its affairs, the status and the precedence of the occupier of the *gaddi* has, I fear, undergone a slow but sure change, and its prestige has somewhat suffered, but which I am sanguine will, under Your Excellency's fostering and benevolent Government, be restored. During the short period since the Supreme Government were pleased to entrust the reins of its administration to my less tried hands as Regent in the exercise of the full powers of my father, His Highness the Nawab, a policy of progress has been followed with unabated zeal in such useful directions as the reorganisation of the law courts, reforming the Police and Medical Departments, and the prompt disposal of work in the different public offices. New roads have been made through the territory and the establishment of a large ginning factory and cotton press, a flour mill and an ice factory, and the reduction of town duties have given an impetus to commerce and local industry. Public buildings have started, and the new bazars and the grain mart have contributed not a little to the beautifying and expansion of the city. Education in its primary and secondary grades has met with the support and encouragement which it so justly deserves, as I consider it to have a very strong claim on the administration of a State. In the end, I may be allowed to say that in steadfast devotion and unswerving loyalty to the British Crown, Maler Kotla has been second

*Durbar at Maler Kotla.*

to none among its compeers in the past, and I can assure Your Excellency that in time of emergency the British Government can count upon the sword of its ruler. Your Excellency, allow me now to express my most sincere thanks for the trouble that you and Your Excellency's noble consort have taken by coming to this place and the honour that Your Excellencies' presence in our midst has conferred upon us."

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Nawab Zadah*,—I beg to thank you for the cordial reception you have extended to me on behalf of your father and the people of his State on my first visit to Maler Kotla, and I greatly appreciate the kind expressions of welcome you have addressed to Lady Minto and my daughters. As you are aware, the time at my disposal is very limited, and I regret that my stay in your State must necessarily be a short one; but it is a great pleasure to me to have even this fleeting opportunity of visiting your people who, as you remind me, first came under British rule during the administration of my ancestor, Lord Minto. The State of Maler Kotla in days gone by rendered much service to the Crown, whilst in recent years you have contributed those Imperial Service Troops which did such excellent work in Tirah and in China. I congratulate you heartily on their efficiency and on their distinguished services. I sympathize with you in the disadvantages under which Maler Kotla labours owing to the unfortunate circumstances which have separated your Chief from the direction of its affairs; but I feel sure that under your able regency no opportunity will be lost in assisting the progress of the State, and I shall look forward to hearing of the development of all those resources in which I know you and your colleagues take so deep an interest.

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OPENING OF NEW IMPERIAL SERVICE TROOPS  
LINES AT SANGRAR, JIND.

[His Excellency the Viceroy opened the new lines at Sangrar on 27th Nov. 1906. the morning of the 27th November. On arrival at the lines His Excellency was met by the Raja, the four principal Councillors of the State, and by Colonel Drummond, late Officiating Inspector-General of Imperial Service Troops.

In declaring the new lines open His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

*Your Highness*,—I am very glad to be present here to-day and to open the new lines which Your Highness has built for your Imperial Service Infantry—a striking testimony to your loyal determination to support the military power of the Empire. I am well acquainted with the military history of your State and of your people. The two guns at the entrance to these lines bear witness to the gallant deeds of the soldiers of Jind whose descendants have in later years shared with British troops in the honours of more than one campaign, in one of which—the Afghan war of 1878 and 1879—I can claim to have been their comrade-in-arms, and though, Your Highness, for the last ten years they have not had the good fortune of being on service—a good fortune for which every soldier longs,—yet I hope that you will tell your officers and men from me that I cannot, indeed, share in their anxiety as to their warlike opportunities for the future, for after seeing for myself the efficiency of Your Highness's troops and the magnificent physique of the men who compose them, I cannot but feel how welcome any offer Your Highness might make of their services would be to any General about to take the field. I am very sorry that General Sir Stuart Beatson has been unavoidably prevented from being present and seeing the fine troops whose welfare and efficiency he has so much at heart. I have very great pleasure in opening the new lines of Your Highness's Imperial Service Infantry, and I am glad to hear that Your Highness proposes to celebrate the anniversary of to-day's ceremony by an annual holiday.

## BANQUET AT JIND.

27th Nov 1906. [On the night of the 27th November His Excellency the Viceroy and party were entertained at a Banquet by His Highness the Raja of Jind. His Excellency made the following speech :—]

*Your Highness*,—I cannot sufficiently thank Your Highness for the magnificent welcome extended to me on my first visit as Viceroy to your State or for the kind terms in which you have proposed the health of Lady Minto and myself. As Your Highness has pointed out, my visit to Jind is not without some mutual interest to your people and to myself, in that it would seem to renew the connection between the house of Jind and my family which commenced in the administration of my ancestor, Lord Minto, nearly 100 years ago, when he strove so earnestly to preserve the independence of the Phulkian States.

Ever since the early days of the last century, when British power was sorely pressed throughout the world, and when in India Lord Lake was struggling hard to maintain the supremacy of British arms, the State of Jind showed itself a true friend; and in the later campaigns, in the terrible struggle of 1857, in the Afghan war of 1878 and 1879, and in the Tirah Campaign in 1897, the soldiers of Your Highness's State have stood shoulder to shoulder with British troops.

I have already told Your Highness to-day how deeply impressed I am with the splendid soldierly bearing of the force you have so patriotically dedicated to the service of the Empire. I hope that the new lines which I have had the great pleasure of opening will contribute largely to its comfort and happiness. The lines have been planned with every care and forethought, and I congratulate Your Highness on having provided accommodation which it would be hard to rival throughout India.

Lady Minto and I will always remember the magnificence of our reception by Your Highness, the wonderful cam

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*Banquet at Nabha.*

a perfect fairy scene, which you have arranged for us, the brilliant illuminations of your city and the hearty welcome of your people. We wish that our stay amongst them could have been longer. And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will ask you to drink to the health of our distinguished and courteous host, with every good wish for his happiness and the future prosperity of his State. I give you the health of His Highness the Raja of Jind.

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#### BANQUET AT NABHA.

[His Excellency the Viceroy and party were entertained at a <sup>28th Nov. 1906.</sup> Banquet by His Highness the Raja of Nabha on the night of the 28th November. His Highness, accompanied by his son and heir, the Tikka Sahib, came in at the conclusion of dinner, and after the King's health had been drunk, the Tikka Sahib made the following speech :—

“ Allow me to offer the heartiest welcome to you all on behalf of my father, who would have with pleasure conveyed it to you himself had he been acquainted with the English language. He is very thankful to Your Excellency for accepting his invitation to visit this State. His joy and pride have much more been increased by the honour the State has received by the visit of Her Excellency Lady Minto and the Ladies Elliot. The Nabha State remembers with great pride the event which connects Your Excellency's family with it. For it was your noble ancestor, the first Earl, the then Governor-General of India, who extended in the year 1809 his helping hand to this and the other Phulkian States, by bringing them under the protection of the British Government. The year 1809, which is so memorable in the history of this State, has now been again made fresh in our memory by Your Excellency's visit. I need not say that the State has never flinched to show its sense of gratitude and loyalty to the British throne under whose protection it fortunately came. The State has served the Government in times of danger and peril, such as the Mutiny of 1857, and other military expeditions. Gentlemen, I now ask you to drink to the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto.”

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Your Highness*,—I deeply appreciate the kind terms in which the Tikka Sahib, speaking on Your Highness's behalf,

*Banquet at Nabha.*

has proposed the toast of my health and that of Lady Minto and my family. It is a peculiar gratification to me to come to Nabha and to the other Phulkian States with which I am proud to be connected by ties of heredity, and here may I be permitted to express the pleasure with which I have received the Tikka Sahib's recent acceptance of a seat in my Legislative Council. The presence of a representative of one of the ancient aristocratic Sikh families in the Council will, I am persuaded, be a source of strength to us. (*Applause.*) Your Highness, the happiness with which I am filled to-night at being a guest in Your Highness's State is enhanced by the knowledge that here, in Nabha, I am surrounded by a nation of warriors whose loyal service to the British Crown forms one of the many bright pages in British Indian history. (*Applause.*) It is well known that Your Highness is profoundly inspired by the traditional instincts of the martial Sikh race, and it is due to Your Highness's keen military spirit and to the force of your personal example that the Imperial Service Troops of Nabha are the fine force we know them to be—(*applause*),—but this after all is only what we should all be led to expect from Raja Sir Hira Singh, who organised the famous historical demonstration on the 6th January 1903, during the Delhi Durbar, when, on the anniversary of the birthday of the tenth Guru Govind Singh, all the Sikhs, both military and civil, in Delhi, at the time, marched in solemn procession down the main street of the city to commemorate the martyrdom of the ninth Guru Teg Bahadur who had prophesied the advent of British power. In this connection, I cannot do better than to read to you a short description from a book which, by a happy coincidence, has fallen into my hands only to-day, written by my friend, General Sir John Gordon, with whom I served in the Afghan campaign of 1878-9, in the Kurram Valley.

[The Viceroy then read the following extract :—]

“There was a remarkable demonstration of this sentiment

*Banquet at Nabha.*

at the great Durbar assemblage at Delhi in January 1903, when representatives of all races and castes were gathered together to hear King Edward VII proclaimed Emperor of India. At the suggestion of the venerable Raja of Nabha, a devout and devoted adherent of the Khalsa, the Sikhs decided to hold a memorial service to mark their peculiar sense of the deep significance of the Durbar by a solemn act of worship at the shrine of the martyr Guru Teg Bahadur, who they said 228 years before foretold, in the hour of his death, the coming of the British Empire under which they would enjoy religious freedom and personal, prosperous liberty. It was a spontaneous act of loyalty managed all among themselves. As the birthday of Guru Gobind Singh, the son of the martyr, occurred on the 6th January, it was decided to mark the day signally. The story of the martyr's death and prophecy was retold, and how this was the time and place to repledge their loyalty to the British who, under the guidance of God, fulfilled the prophecy. A small temple in the chief street of Delhi marks the site of Teg Bahadur's execution in 1675. A procession in all the panoply and pageantry of old feudal Sikh days proceeded to this spot. It was formed of horsemen, banner-bearers, and the Sikh levies accompanying their chiefs, being followed by a carriage in which under a covering of gold was the sacred Granth, the Holy Book. This was reverently lifted out and conveyed into the shrine, whilst to mark the special importance of the occasion the English National Anthem 'God Save the King' was played by the musicians. All the Sikh Chiefs, Sardars, and Church dignitaries were there. It was a gathering of the nation called together by their own leaders, and all knew what they were there for. Standing by the Holy Book they, on behalf of all the Sikhs, with their martyred Guru present in spirit (they all believe that) renewed in each other's presence their vows of fealty to the King-Emperor. A sacred chant was then sung, in which all joined, closing



*Review of Imperial Service Troops at Patiala.*

with their invocation to the Supreme Being, which was responded to by the loud shouts of the crowd. On the sacred Granth being replaced in the carriage, 'God Save the King' was again played to emphasise the meaning of the ceremony, which typified their loyal and sacred bond to British rule and the compelling force of the union which, according to their ideas, had been miraculously brought about." (*Loud applause.*)

[In conclusion the Viceroy said:—]

Gentlemen, it only remains for me to propose to you, which I do with very sincere pleasure, the health of our warm-hearted host, His Highness the Raja of Nabha.

#### REVIEW OF IMPERIAL SERVICE TROOPS AT PATIALA.

30th Nov. 1906.

[On the morning of the 30th November, His Excellency the Viceroy attended a review of all the troops of the State.

The review was attended by a large number of spectators including Her Excellency the Countess of Minto and the Ladies Elliot. The Maharaja rode at the head of his troops, which consisted of 2,380 of all ranks. After taking the Royal Salute the Viceroy accompanied by the Maharaja rode down the line and inspected the troops. After the march past and charge His Excellency called up His Highness the Maharaja, the Commander-in-Chief and others, and addressed them as follows:—]

*Your Highness*,—May I say a few words to the Commander-in-Chief and, through him, to the troops on parade to-day. General Pritam Singh, I have often heard of the Patiala troops, and, when I came here, I was prepared beforehand to see a fine body of men on parade. But to-day's review has gone far beyond anything I had expected. His Highness the Maharaja has reason to feel immensely proud of his forces, and you, General Pritam Singh, must also feel immensely proud of having under your command such a fine body of men. It is impossible to make

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*Review of Imperial Service Troops at Patiala.*

distinctions as between the various units, and I certainly shall not attempt to do so. All arms—artillery, lancers and infantry—were extremely good. All went past, and in fact did everything else, perfectly. I know that if ever the Patiala troops should be called upon again, they will stand by the British troops shoulder to shoulder in the field as in old days, and I know what magnificent troops His Majesty the King-Emperor will have at his service. I heartily congratulate the inspecting officers of the Imperial Service Troops, Major John Hill and Captain Craik, on the high efficiency of the forces to whose improvement they have so devotedly given their best work. General Pritam Singh, I am very glad on this occasion to appoint you an honorary Aide-de-Camp on my staff, feeling sure that you thoroughly deserve the honour by the zeal and ability you have shown in command of the splendid troops now on parade before me, and I congratulate you.

[The Viceroy then received a Deputation of the Patiala State Council and addressed them as follows :—]

*Sardar Gurmukh Singh, Khalifa Muhammad Hussain, and Lala Baghwan Dass*,—I must congratulate you most warmly on the parade we have just seen. The State possesses a body of troops of which any country would be proud. I know well how much the Council of Regency have the welfare and efficiency of the Imperial Service Troops at heart and the consistent efforts you have made to raise them to the high standard they have reached. You must feel the keenest gratification in seeing the result to which you have contributed so much. I congratulate you most heartily.

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## BANQUET AT PATIALA.

30th Nov. 1906.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy, the Countess of Minto and party were entertained by His Highness the Maharaja at a State Banquet in the Viceregal Camp on the night of the 30th November. At the conclusion of dinner His Highness came to table and after proposing the King-Emperor's health read the following speech :—

"*Ladies and Gentlemen*,—Before asking you to drink to the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto, I wish to thank them for the honour they have done to me and to my State. It gives me the greatest pleasure to welcome Your Excellency to Patiala, and I shall always remember how much my State owes to the support received from Your Excellency's renowned great-grandfather. I must also thank the Countess of Minto and the Ladies Elliot for giving me the pleasure of seeing them here to-night. I wish to assure Your Excellency of the unaltered devotion of myself and my State to the British Throne. Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in wishing long-life and prosperity to His Excellency and Lady Minto.

To which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies, and Gentlemen*,—I thank Your Highness for the very kind words in which you have proposed the toast of my health. I assure you I shall always remember with pleasure the magnificent reception you have extended to me on behalf of your State and the cordial welcome you have given to Lady Minto and my daughters. I have long wished to visit Patiala. The historical tie which unites the history of my family with the Phulkian States is one of which I cannot but feel very proud. I am proud and pleased to be here amongst you and to hear from yourselves that the name of my ancestor, Lord Minto, has not been forgotten and is still revered amongst you. When Lord Minto signed the well-known treaty of 1809 he threw in his lot with a nation who never forget or neglect a friend, and for that reason I am extremely glad to have had the opportunity of shaking by the hand the descendants of the Sikh warriors of those stressful days. Since the time of Lord Lake, as is well known in history, the soldiers of Patiala have stood by the British Empire in many a hard-fought battle, and I feel perfectly sure that they will be ready and eager to do so again, should the call

*Banquet at Patiala.*

ever come. And here, perhaps, Your Highness will allow me to say also that I cherish that personal feeling for your troops by which every good soldier must always feel inspired for those with whom he has served in the field. I am old enough, I am sorry to say, to remember the arrival in the Kurram Valley during the Afghan War of 1878 and 1879 of the brave soldiers of Patiala, Nabha and Jind under the command of that splendid leader John Watson. And looking around me to-night I am delighted to find that here in Patiala I have still some old comrades-in-arms (among them Lala Baghwan Dass) to share with me in the recollection of those glorious days.

Your Highness, I congratulate you heartily on the prosperity of your State. The Council of Regency which has administered its affairs deserves great praise for the many important improvements it has been able to effect; and when Your Highness comes of age you will be able to recognize with gratitude the able and zealous way in which the various responsibilities of the administration, heavy as they are, have been sustained by a devoted body of men, and you will enter with high hopes upon the great duties that will then await you. And here I may make special mention of the name of Sardar Gurmukh Singh, President of the Council of Regency, whom I was very glad to recommend for the honour of "Companion of the Star of India." He and his colleagues deserve my especial commendation for the care with which they maintained, during a critical financial period, the Imperial Service Troops even at the expense of reducing the strength of the local troops. On this subject I spoke fully at the parade this morning, and I don't think that I gave more praise than the occasion justified. To General Pritam Singh I again offer my warmest congratulations on the very high state of efficiency to which he has brought the splendid troops that he has under his command. My only regret, which I know you all share, is that General Sir Stuart Beatson

*Banquet at Gomoh.*

has been prevented by illness from sharing in to-day's proceedings and seeing the dash and efficiency of those troops for whom he has done so much. Of the other members of the Council and of those who have so successfully co-operated with General Pritam Singh, I need not on this occasion speak in detail, but I would congratulate Khalifa Saiad Muhammad Hussain on the comprehensive system of public works which have done so much for the people of this State and for the sanitation of the city, and Lala Bhagwan Dass on all he has effected on behalf of education. I cannot also allow the opportunity to pass without recognising the excellent work done by Mr. Biddulph, who, as Accountant-General, has restored the finances of the State to a condition of stability, and by Major Popham Young, who has revised the land settlement and placed it on a new and satisfactory basis. I do not wish to detain you longer, but I must publicly thank the State for the effective system of transport registration carried through by Colonel Abdul Majid Khan with his usual thoroughness and energy.

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I give you the health of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, wishing him in the great career that lies before him every happiness and prosperity.

OPENING OF THE NEW EAST INDIAN RAILWAY  
CHORD LINE.

BANQUET AT GOMOH.

6th Dec. 1906. [The Viceroy, with Lady Minto and party, arrived at Gyu at 1 P.M. on the 6th December, where they were met by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and Lady Fraser, Mr. Douglas, Agent of the East Indian Railway, Mr. Highet, Chief Engineer, and Mr. Cockshott, who accompanied the train as far as Gurpa.

Here His Excellency and Lady Minto, Lady Eileen Elliot, Colonel the Hon'ble L. and Lady Victoria Dawnay, Sir Louis Dane, and the members of the Viceroy's Staff, as well as Sir Andrew and Lady

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Fraser and the railway officers mentioned above, left the train and embarking on board an observation car especially constructed for the purpose, proceeded on it as far as Gujhendi.

The road passes through a hilly country, thick with jungle, up a gradually ascending incline through rocky cuttings, glistening with mica, and through three tunnels. The whole country offers a great relief to the eye after the many miles of flat, featureless plain over which the railway passes most of the way to Bombay. This new line, which will shorten the distance from Bombay and Upper India to Calcutta by 50 miles, will besides, by passing through the Jherriah Coal-fields, effect a saving of a distance of 110 miles for coal proceeding to Cawnpore and Northern India, thus greatly stimulating the coal industry. Besides it passes under the hill of Pareshnath, 4,488 feet above the sea, which might therefore perhaps by being served with railway communication become in future the Pachmarhi of Bengal. At about 2-40 the Viceroy on the observation car reached Gujhendi. Here were collected almost all the people either interested in or employed in the railway service, and among them were : the Hon'ble Mr. Hewett, the Hon'ble Mr. McRobert of Cawnpore, and the ladies and gentlemen who, at the invitation of the East Indian Railway, had come up in the two special trains that left Calcutta on Wednesday night.

The Viceroy on alighting from his car was received with a salute from a guard of honour of railway police, and Lady Minto was presented with a bouquet. Mr. Douglas then requested the Viceroy to screw in the last bolt in the line. His Excellency then stepping forward was presented with a silver bolt, which, with a silver spanner he screwed on. Three cheers were then called for the Viceroy, which were most heartily responded to. He then entered his train and proceeded to Gomoh.

At the Gomoh Station, in a magnificent hall, decorated with flags and foliage and a wealth of flowers, a banquet had been prepared, and to this banquet 160 ladies and gentlemen sat down. Mr. Douglas sat at the end of the room with His Excellency on his right and Lady Minto on his left. At the termination of the dinner Mr. Douglas, rising, spoke as follows :—

*"Your Excellencies, Your Honour, Ladies, and Gentlemen,*—I first desire to heartily thank His Excellency the Viceroy for the honour he has done the East Indian Railway administration in graciously consenting to perform the opening ceremony of the complete Grand Chord Railway and to express our high appreciation of the great compliment thus paid us. To Her Excellency Lady Minto we are also deeply indebted for her gracious presence. Further, I have to thank His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and Lady Fraser for

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their kind presence on this occasion—and finally, I thank you all, Ladies and Gentlemen, who have accepted my invitation to what I may perhaps call this outing in the wilderness.

“The pamphlet containing a map and description of the new railway which has been prepared and distributed will already have explained its main general features. Briefly, the entire Chord from Sitarampur to Moghal Serai is 281 miles long; its cost has been 415 lakhs of rupees, and it contains two specially important works of much interest, *viz.*, the Sone bridge at Dehri and the crossing of the Vindhya hills. But it will probably be of further interest if I mention that this line, the completing link of which we have passed over to-day, was a portion of the first alignment proposed for the East Indian Railway between Calcutta and Moghal Serai. One of the first general plans drawn up, which is dated 1846, just sixty years ago, shows the alignment of the railway then proposed as running on the Calcutta side of the river Hooghly up as far as Naihati, crossing the river at Naihati to Hooghly near the site of the present Jubilee bridge and running from there in practically a straight line to Moghal Serai, thus passing from Sitarampur almost along the route of what is now an accomplished fact, the Grand Chord Railway.

“There have been moments when I could have wished that this alignment had then been adopted so far as the Grand Chord portion of it was concerned, since, had it been so, a controversy and discussion which extended over many years and at times became somewhat heated would never have arisen.

“But other counsels had prevailed, and in connection with the alignment it was decided that, after serving the town of Burdwan the line should, in the first instance, be directed towards the river Ganges and follow generally its course, and consequently what we now call the Loop line extended on to Benares was constructed, thus giving first the benefits of railway communication to the large centres of population along the banks of that river and to the fertile districts which it waters; and that this decision was the right one was quickly established by the large and growing traffic which was given to the railway at an early period of its existence by these densely populated areas. I may mention here that the line was opened in 1860 up to Rajmehal on the banks of the Ganges by one of His Excellency the Viceroy's illustrious predecessors—His Excellency Earl Canning, the then Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

“But with the extension of our main line to Delhi arose a rapid increase of traffic between Northern India and Calcutta, and as a consequence it became desirable in the interests of this trade to make a shorter and more direct route through Bengal, and so the smaller.

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Chord line came into being. This line, I should say, had at an early period been constructed as far as the Ranigunge Coal-field mainly with the idea of furnishing a supply of coal for the use of the railway, but I may mention that in addition that field now sends away annually some 3½ million tons of coal for purposes of the trade and commerce of India generally.

“Again, in process of time arose a further demand for a still shorter connection between Northern India and the sea-board and more transport facilities, and so the Grand Chord project, giving the shortest practicable route, was taken up and has been pushed, through many difficulties, to completion, and thus we see to-day the proposals of sixty years standing converted into a fact. The line has been built in three separate instalments at different times; the first section was made to serve the great Jherriah Coal-field, the traffic from which has reached a total of over three million tons per annum. The second section started from the other end—Moghal Serai—and ran to Gya, a town of historic and sacred interest; thus the two great sacred places—Benares and Gya—between which large numbers of pilgrims travel, received direct railway connection. On this section is one of the two great engineering features of the line, *vis.*, the Sone bridge which is practically two miles long and is second in length to only one other bridge in the world, the Tay bridge near Dundee. I should like to mention that this bridge was built by an officer who has since left the service of the East Indian Railway, Mr. F. Palmer, now Chief Engineer of the Calcutta Port Trust, and who I am pleased to find present with us to-day. The third and last section which links up the whole of the Chord is that over which you have just travelled.

“This last section contains the other important, indeed the chief engineering feature of interest, *vis.*, the crossing of the Vindhya Range of hills, and it was in accomplishing this crossing that the main difficulties of construction centred.

“The problem of finding the best and the cheapest alignment through the hills was one which necessarily occupied much time and study on the part of our engineers. It is stated in legendary lore that a famous sage of Northern India travelling south on reaching these hills commanded them to bow down before him so as to afford him an easy passage across. Our engineers unfortunately did not possess such powers of overcoming nature, and so were obliged to adopt latter-day prosaic methods of doing this. You will have seen how the crossing has been effected. It has necessitated the construction of three difficult tunnels, many heavy cuttings and high embankments, while the line itself rises to a height of some 1,300 feet above sea level.



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"The credit of discovering the alignment adopted belongs to our present Chief Engineer, Mr. R. S. Highet. The matter had been under consideration for some years by several engineers of high standing, and an alignment had, as a matter of fact, been determined upon before Mr. Highet took charge of the work. He, however, was not satisfied with it and, as the result of further study and examination, he secured the present alignment, which is not only a greatly improved one but has reduced the cost of the section by some 8 lakhs of rupees, an achievement of which Mr. Highet may justly be proud. The actual construction of the line has been in direct charge of Mr. F. E. Cockshott, and to him much credit is due for the successful completion of the many difficult works concerned. Immediately under Mr. Cockshott have been a number of engineers, each of whom in their different capacities contributed largely to the results obtained, and these again were assisted by subordinates, both European and Native, who throughout worked with energy, industry and intelligence.

"But interesting and important as the designing and actual construction of undertakings of this character necessarily are, the chief question after all is their ultimate usefulness as means of transport, thus furthering the development of the country and its trade, and in this I am satisfied the Grand Chord Railway will play a great and important part.

"I have already referred to the large coal traffic which one section of the line has created by giving railway transport to the Jherriah Coal-field; and the opening of the line through will have further important results. First, there will be the shortening of the distance between Calcutta and Moghal Serai and all places beyond by some 50 miles, thus saving time and cost of transport, and the significance of this as regards the latter will be to some extent realised when I mention that the adjustment of rates and fares which will follow will mean a concession to the public on the traffic now carried of approximately Rs. 25 lakhs a year. The traffic from the Jherriah Coal-field to Moghal Serai and beyond will be specially favoured, inasmuch as the detour by Sitarampur, now necessary in the case of such traffic, will be avoided, thus reducing the transit distance in this case by some 110 miles. Another important change in this direction associated with the opening of the line is the introduction of the new coal tariff, which of itself means a reduction in charges to the coal trade, taking the coal traffic as it is at present of no less than, say, Rs. 20 lakhs per annum, a reduction which I would point out is in addition to the 25 lakhs just mentioned as arising from the shortening of distances. These are large sacrifices of revenue, but we trust in no long time to recoup

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ourselves. We expect from them important increases in the volume of our business both in passengers and in goods traffic. We look to the reduction in cost of coal transport to so reduce the price of coal at the various industrial centres in Northern India, that, not only will there be a great expansion of the coal traffic itself, but also of trade generally, and especially of manufacturing enterprise which the cheaper coal should encourage and make possible.

"In connection with these matters I think I may claim—without saying more than is, I believe, generally recognized—that it has long been the policy of the East Indian Railway administration, notably since the advent of General Sir R. Strachey to the Chairmanship of the Board of Directors, to give the fullest possible advantages affordable by the railway as a great transporting agency to both the country and its commerce. In passenger fares large reductions have been made from time to time mainly in those of the lower class passengers and with most beneficial results generally, a fact that is evident from the greatly increased numbers who have been thereby enabled to avail themselves of the use of the railway as a means of travelling. Under the head of merchandise, coal, as an article of primary necessity to the expansion of industries and trade generally, has had our special attention in this respect, but we feel that other staples of commerce also need consideration in the same direction, and it is in this view that we have, as is known, recently come forward asking for the removal of the restriction now placed upon us in the matter of rates, for we are satisfied, so far at least as the East Indian Railway is concerned, that lower rates than are now permissible can in the case of export produce carried over long distances be given with great advantage both to the railway and the trade of the country.

"In conclusion, Your Excellencies, Your Honour, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I would venture to express the hope that in due time, as the Grand Chord line develops and is seen to extend and increase the great blessings of cheap transport to the country's trade and population—especially the poorer section of it,—you will be able to recall with interest and some pleasure the part you have taken to-day in its opening.

"Your Honour, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I have now to propose to you a toast which I am sure you will all receive with enthusiasm—the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto."

The toast of Lord and Lady Minto was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm.

The Viceroy then rose, and spoke as follows :—]

*Mr. Douglas, Ladies, and Gentlemen,*—In the first place I must thank you, Mr. Douglas, for the kind words you have

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addressed to Lady Minto and myself in proposing the toast of our health. It has been a great pleasure to both of us to be here to-day, and I feel myself particularly fortunate in having had the opportunity of clinching the last bolt in the Grand Chord Railway.

Mr. Douglas has told us this evening how the line has been constructed in separate sections, each of them calling for the exercise of the highest engineering skill. The Sone bridge, between Mogal Serai and Gya, built by my friend, Mr. Palmer, is one of the great bridges of the world, whilst the distinguished abilities of Mr. Highet and the careful construction of Mr. Cockshott have triumphed over the difficulties of the Vindhya Range and have completed the beautiful hill section over which we passed this afternoon. To-day's ceremony marks the forging of another great link in the East Indian Railway system. It is very interesting to note how the necessity for that link has made itself more evident in each succeeding year; how the Loop line in the first place carried prosperity to the populations on the banks of the Ganges, and how still more extensive railway connection with Delhi and the north brought increased traffic, to be met by the building of the smaller Chord line, to be followed by still greater demands for railway development to which the opening of the Grand Chord Railway is to-day's reply.

It is even still more interesting to look back on the early days of the East Indian Railway Company. I believe we owe the introduction to India of railways (and telegraphs too) largely to the foresight of Lord Dalhousie, though John Company was not at all inclined to support him. The Directors told him his proposals were merely wasteful extravagance. All the same, he beat them, and turned the first sod of the East Indian Railway in 1851. The Company itself had been organised in 1845 by Mr. Stephenson, afterwards Sir MacDonal'd Stephenson, who was really the pioneer of Indian railways. But much time was spent,

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I may, perhaps, in these days say without disrespect, that much time was wasted, in negotiations with the East India Company. The contract was not signed till 1849, and the first section of the link to Hooghly was not opened till 1854. Many of us must often have thought what that delay meant, for what terrible things it may afterwards have been answerable, what lives might a few hundred miles of railway have saved—for the East Indian Railway has no ordinary history : its early days are tinged with the terrible romance of the Mutiny. If the Railway Company had only been a little older, what might it not have done. In its infancy as it was, the stress of war could only delay its growth, but we will, none of us, ever forget the devotion and the heroic defence of the small house at Arrah by Vickers Boyle. Now I trust this great railway is destined to flourish through long years of peace to play its part in the development of the trade of India, and the furtherance of the happiness of its people. Mr. Douglas has told us that it is the policy of the East Indian Railway administration to give the fullest possible advantage affordable by the Railway as a great transporting agency to both the country and its commerce—a noble and patriotic ambition for which India owes her thanks.

Ladies and Gentlemen, now that Lady Minto and I have arrived so nearly at the end of our tour, and as I see so many railway friends gathered around me, I really cannot say good-night without thanking them for the innumerable courtesies we have received from them throughout the many hundred miles of our journey. Mr. Douglas and Mr. Dring, and very many others whom it would only be invidious to mention, have done much for the comfort of our tour, which I can assure them we shall not forget.

And now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will ask you to join with me in a toast, which, I am sure, will be drunk with enthusiasm, the health of Mr. Douglas, and I venture to couple with it the healths of the able and energetic staff of

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all ranks who have served with him, and success to the Grand Chord Railway!

[At the end of the speech the toast proposed was drunk. Mr. Douglas then replied briefly thanking the Viceroy for his kind remarks, and saying that anything done for so kind and courteous a gentleman as Lord Minto was truly a pleasure. The Viceroy and party then left for Calcutta.]

### OPENING OF THE INDIAN INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

21st Dec. 1906 [His Excellency the Viceroy opened the Exhibition on the 21st December 1906.

The grounds presented a brilliant appearance and a vast crowd attended the ceremony. Among those present were Sir A. Fraser, the Chief Justice, the Members of Council and many others. His Excellency accompanied by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto, Colonel Dunlop Smith and an Aide-de-Camp arrived punctually at 4 P.M.

The Sangit Samaj then sang a Benediction song, at the conclusion of which Mr. J. Chowdhury read the Progress Report of the Committee. He pointed out the difficulties that had been experienced in organising the present Exhibition and thanked Government for the help given. The report also pointed out the scope of the Exhibition and what it hoped to accomplish.

At the conclusion the Maharaja of Darbhanga made the following speech :—

*“ My Lord,—*It is with a peculiar pleasure that I welcome Your Excellency and this great assembly in this hall. A hall of Industry is a hall of peace. Here the voice of controversy is hushed. I invite you to witness some of the triumphs of peace, which have been pronounced on high authority to be no less glorious than those of war. I heartily wish that the triumphs will multiply as time advances, and that in a temple of concord like this the bonds of union between different races, creeds and classes may be constantly renewed and strengthened. It is a trite saying that the wealth of a country depends upon its commerce and industries. India has been the home of many industries, but they need to be adapted to the requirements of modern times. In consequence of a lack of adaptation, and of many other circumstances, such as the conditions of Indian social life, the

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shyness of capital, the altered tastes and habits of the people, and the opening out of new walks of life, some of the old industries have nearly died out, some others have been dwindling. Handicrafts, remarkable in their way as proofs of manual skill and industry, have had to face an unequal competition with mechanical appliances of ever-increasing power and refinement. Children of artisans, when they have received the elements of a school education, and still more when they have tasted of higher education, which under British rule has been thrown open to all, have shown an unwillingness to pursue the traditional occupation of their families. When the ranks of any class of artisans have been thinned in this way, caste rules have stood in the way of their being recruited from other classes. The tastes of the people have been so altered that they find some of the products of the old industries as either too fine or too coarse. So many new careers have been opened out by Government and by mercantile men that many have deserted the old industries in the hope of making surer and larger gains than what they could expect from the old avocations of their fathers. Government have for many years sought to create a taste for industries among the people, and with that end in view have established schools of science and industry. I am not aware of a truer friend and patron of Indian industry than Your Excellency. We, therefore, felt emboldened to ask Your Excellency to open the Exhibition, and we are deeply thankful that you have consented, in spite of the numerous calls on your time and attention, to discharge the office. We also heartily thank Her Excellency Lady Minto for gracing the occasion with her presence. The Exhibition could not be opened under happier or more august auspices, and it is now my pleasing duty as President of the Exhibition Committee to invite Your Excellency to declare the Exhibition open."

His Excellency the Viceroy in declaring the Exhibition open spoke as follows :—]

*Maharaja, Your Honour, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—*  
I understand this is the second time the Indian Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition has been held in Calcutta. The first occasion was, I believe, in 1901, the year in which the Exhibition was inaugurated, and I am very glad to be here to-day to offer it a hearty welcome on its return to the capital of India.

I must thank you, Maharaja, for the cordial reception you have extended to me on behalf of your Committee, and

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I would venture at the same time to congratulate you on the wise and thoughtful words of your Address.

You have reminded me of my reference to *Swadeshi* in my speech in Council last March, and I hope that my presence here may be some indication of the fulfilment of the promise of support I then held out to those who are earnestly endeavouring to develop home industries in an open market for the employment and for the supply of the people of India.

I see around me the results of their labours, and I am gladly here to-day to help them. I understand, Maharaja, it was wisely decided at the inauguration of the Exhibition that it was to be dissociated from politics, and I trust we shall all benefit this afternoon by breathing the bracing air of a non-controversial atmosphere. I shall, at any rate, rejoice if my presence should contribute to confirm the dissociation of honest *Swadeshi* from political aspirations. There is no occasion, there is no justification for confusing the two. And this Exhibition will do a great work for India if, whilst recognising the right that every man has to his own political opinions and the right to make them known, it enables us all to meet on a *Swadeshi* platform where, irrespective of our political views, we can work hand in hand for the good of the people. We shall all do well to recognise that though industrial necessities and manufacturing interests must go far to shape the policy of India, that is a very different thing from attempting to direct and control those industries and interests for political purposes.

I am looking forward, Maharaja, to the opportunity you have afforded me of seeing for myself the many articles of interest the energy of your Committee has collected here. I cannot tell you how heartily I sympathise not only in their endeavours to develop industrial resources, but in all they are doing to preserve those characteristic native arts for which India has for centuries been celebrated and skilled, handicrafts which the modern world can never hope to rival.

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Whilst in the larger sense of production for purposes of every-day utility and consumption they have recognised the necessity for the adoption of machinery which modern science has made available to the manufacturer. In these days of competition and of ever-advancing mechanical discovery India cannot lag behind. We cannot expect the Indian public for sentimental reasons to buy what is inferior and behind the times. Sad as it is to see ancient industries give way to novel methods, we should be prepared to welcome all that is good in the inevitable, to adapt our populations to the demands of modern requirements, and to educate them in the knowledge of modern inventions. This Exhibition has already done much to indicate to the Indian manufacturer the paths that lead to success. I hope, too, that the Department of Commerce and Industry, over which the Hon'ble Mr. Hewett has so ably presided, has shed an influence over Indian commercial life which may have great results in the future.

I congratulate the Committee of the Exhibition on the support they have received from Indian Princes and Chiefs. They have, I can assure them, the warm sympathy of the Government of India, and I know that they have no truer friend in Bengal than Sir Andrew Fraser.

Maharaja, I have to thank you for your kind references to Her Excellency and myself. I shall watch the efforts of your Exhibition with the deepest interest, and I have now great pleasure in declaring it open.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE RAJPUT MAHASABHA.

10th Jan. 1907 [During the Viceroy's visit to Agra in connection with the visit of His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan to India, His Excellency received a Deputation from the Rajput Mahasabha which presented an address headed by His Highness the Maharaja of Bikanir and His Highness the Maharaja of Idar.

His Excellency replied to the address in the following terms :—]

*Your Highnesses and Gentlemen*,—I am grateful for the opportunity afforded me to-day of meeting the members of your Deputation—a Deputation so representative of the Chiefs, Nobles, Talukdars and Jagirdars of the great Rajput community, headed by my friend, His Highness the Maharaja of Bikanir. I thank you for your welcome to the head-quarters of your Sabha, to this city, which the memories of the valorous deeds of your ancestors has endeared to you, a city, as you say, full of stirring associations, and, putting aside for an instant the objects of your Deputation, I hope that we, as a part of the great assemblage gathered here, may share in contributing another brilliant page to the history of Agra. Your Highness, the address with which you have presented me impresses upon me the efforts your Association is making for social reform and the diffusion of knowledge. It is very true that Western sciences and culture and, perhaps more important still, Western ways of thought, are making themselves felt throughout India, and I hope that British rule may assist the people of India to direct into the most profitable channels the many influences which must so momentarily affect their future. Old days of ignorance and slavery to custom have gone for ever. A new life has, I hope, come into being. But it will assuredly bring with it fresh difficulties and problems unknown to the old life; problems affecting the material and political welfare of the people which altered social conditions can alone satisfactorily solve. Your Princes and Chiefs have, I know, done much by the encouragement of education and social reforms to fit the

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*Address from the Rajput Mahasabha.*

community for that share in the public life of their country which should be the highest ambition of any man. No leaders of a great movement have ever had finer human material to work with than you have. You may well be proud of your Rajput history. You rightly claim to be a soldier race,—a race that has had no great share of the luxuries of life in a country which is, perhaps, all the dearer to you because you have known that your existence and your success have depended upon the courage and hardihood of your people. It was Napoleon who said “poverty, privations and misery are the school of a good soldier.” But I hope that your community has for ever left the old rough days behind them, and that you will now contribute the sterling qualities of your race to the national life of your country. You, Your Highness, and you, Your Highness General Sir Pertab Singh, have earned distinction in India and beyond the seas in the service of the King-Emperor, and Rajputana has given many good soldiers to the Empire, and I can assure you that as regards the Cadet Corps and the openings to a professional future which I sincerely hope it will supply, you may rely upon me for my support, fullest sympathy, and assistance. The King has no more loyal subjects than his faithful Rajputs, and, Gentlemen, no one can look forward with greater pleasure than I do to any opportunity which may be afforded to me of furthering your endeavours to encourage the just aspirations of your people to share in the public life of India.

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## STATE BANQUET AT AGRA.

11th Jan. 1907. [His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan had been invited by the Government of India to visit India. His Majesty accepted the invitation, and having crossed the frontier, on January the 3rd entered British territory for the first time in his life. On his way to Agra, where His Excellency the Viceroy was to meet him, the Amir passed through Peshawar, where he received a splendid reception. His Majesty arrived at Agra on the morning of the 9th January. On the night of the 11th a State dinner was given in His Majesty's honour, at which a large and distinguished gathering was present.

At the conclusion of dinner His Excellency the Viceroy rose and made the following speech :—]

We are honoured to-night by the distinguished presence of the able ruler of a neighbouring State, the country of a friend to whom the King-Emperor, whose representative I am proud to be at this memorable gathering at Agra, has expressed a hearty welcome on the occasion of his first visit to the Indian Empire. It is many years since an Amir of Afghanistan has been the guest of a Viceroy, and I rejoice that it has been possible for His Majesty to leave for a time the cares of State and to accept the best we can offer of Indian hospitality. I trust that during his sojourn with us he will see much that will prove of interest to him, that the efforts we have made to ensure his comfort may prove successful, and, above all, that when he leaves us to return to Afghanistan he will rest assured that he has gained many personal friends in India and that he carries with him their sincerest good wishes for the future welfare and prosperity of himself and of his people. I ask you, Gentlemen, to join with me in welcoming our friend and guest, and to drink to the good health of His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan.

[To this the Amir replied :—" I am very glad that the first occasion on which I have left my home has been to come to my friend's house, and I hope and I sincerely trust from my heart that I have found a personal friend for myself and for my Government, and I am very highly pleased. It is an extreme gratification, too, that I have been treated so well by His Excellency my friend, and all the other kind

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*Dinner given by Members of the Geological and Mining Association.*

friends I have met in this my journey. I will be gratified if you all, Nobles, Lords, Maharajahs, and all here present, will drink to the health of His Excellency the Viceroy. I hope you will all follow me in this toast."

The Viceroy responded as follows :—]

*Your Excellencies, Your Honours, My Lords, and Gentlemen,*—I rise to acknowledge the gracious terms in which my health has been proposed by the Amir of Afghanistan, which will, I hope, fix a stamp to the friendship which we all trust will exist for ever between our respective countries.

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DINNER GIVEN BY MEMBERS OF THE GEOLOGICAL  
AND MINING ASSOCIATION.

[His Excellency the Viceroy was the principal guest at a dinner 25th Jan. 1907 given by the members of the Geological and Mining Association in celebration of the first anniversary of the founding of the Association.

The dinner was held at the Volunteer Head-quarters. Mr. Holland, the President of the Association, proposed His Excellency's health. The Viceroy spoke as follows :—]

*Mr. President and Gentlemen,*—I am indeed very glad to be here to-night in the early days of your Institute and on the first occasion I believe on which its members have gathered together round the festive board to celebrate its birthday. I hope that this evening's banquet will be the precursor of many others at which you may in future celebrate the progress and the success of the Institute, the objects of which you are doing so much to encourage. It is quite new to me to be told that my ancestor, Lord Minto, discovered gold (*loud laughter*), I mean coal in India, although I am thankful to say that he discovered a certain amount in the kingdom of Fife—for if it had not been for that, well ! I don't know where I should have been.

I am afraid, Mr. President, that I cannot pretend to be a surveying or mining expert in any sense of the word. But as it happens, I have seen something of geological survey

*Dinner given by members of the Geological and Mining Association.*

and mining projecting in days gone by, in Canada under the tutelage of Sir William Dawson and his distinguished son, Dr. George Dawson, President of the Geological Survey of the Dominion, and my experience taught me that the surveyor and the miner do wisely to walk hand in hand, and that the Geological Survey should really represent an Intelligence Department furnishing the information upon which the miner bases his plan of campaign.

You are now, I know, endeavouring to unite these two branches of science, and nobody will more anxiously watch the results of your labours than I shall. I can only speak as a layman in the presence of experts, but I have seen the great gold mines of British Columbia and their extensive gold-crushing machinery and stamps. I have been down to the bottomest depth of Vancouver Island after coal. I have followed in the wake of a mad rush after gold to Alaska, wandered up the coast of British Columbia and down the waters of the Yukon to Dawson City. I have lived amongst the miners of the Klondyke and have many friends still I hope amongst the adventurous spirits of the creeks. I have myself handled a sieve and have watched with delight the wet mud making way for its rich sediment of gold, where little machinery is wanted except the machinery of a good constitution, pluck and a share of luck, with an iron determination not to squander one's winnings at the nearest saloon. But wherever I have been I have realised that the discovery of mineral wealth means not only riches for those who keep what they find, but that it is followed also by development of every sort. It is followed by settlement of fresh populations, by the encouragement of industries and the growth of prosperity in all directions. The miner brings with him his demand for labour, the population that always follows his discoveries bring with it the necessity for further industries, and wealth is disseminated. You in India have a great field before you—a field that has hitherto not been so very

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*Minto Fancy Fête.*

much explored, the miner has needed the science of the geologist to tell him of the treasure that is hidden in the bowels of the earth, it rests with the miner to bring that treasure to light, and to furnish the machinery to place it in the market. The forces, which your Institute has united, will, I hope, prove invincible. I earnestly hope you will meet with support not only from people at home but from the people of India. You are helping to develop not only one great industry but many others which must follow in its footsteps. No one will watch your work more carefully and with greater interest than I shall, and I thank you sincerely for the assistance the skilled knowledge of the members of your Institution is giving to the Government in their endeavours to develop the resources of this country.

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MINTO FANCY FÊTE.

[This Fête was opened in Calcutta by His Excellency the Viceroy 28th Jan. 1907. on the 28th January 1907, and its object is set forth in the speech made by Her Excellency on the occasion.

The grounds presented a charming and effective appearance, and the bright weather, though hot, added to the gaiety of the scene.

There was a large and distinguished gathering present at the ceremony. When all were in their seats, Her Excellency Lady Minto drove up in State, and was received by the members of the Reception Committee, and conducted to her seat. The Ladies Eileen, Ruby and Violet Elliot arrived a few minutes later, and were provided with seats behind Lady Minto. At 4-15 P.M. His Excellency the Viceroy drove up in State, and was received by Lady Minto and the members of the Reception Committee, and conducted to a seat on Her Excellency's right. Lady Minto then rose, and in a clear voice, which was heard by all, spoke as follows :—

"*Your Excellency*,—Before asking Your Excellency to declare this Fancy Fête open I would like to make a few remarks concerning the objects for which it has been organised, and to thank those who have so nobly come to my assistance in this great undertaking.

"It is well known that many of the most deserving institutions are hampered by want of means. The generous help of the public,

*Minto Fancy Fête.*

which is everywhere given so freely to hospitals, nursing homes, and institutions for the alleviation of suffering, is unable to meet the ever-increasing demands, and it is only by large public entertainments, such as we are assembled to inaugurate to-day, that adequate sums of money can be raised to help these deserving objects.

"My hope is that the amount realized by this Fête may be sufficiently large to add many comforts to those lying ill in the various European and Indian hospitals in Calcutta, and also to substantially assist the Calcutta and Indian Nursing Association in their efforts to provide well-trained Nurses both for hospital and private cases.

"The attempt to thank those who have assisted me in my task is a difficult one. Virtually all Calcutta has to be thanked. From the largest mercantile firms to the smallest, and members of all trades, each in their way, have generously subscribed either in money or in kind—the bazaar stalls have been splendidly stocked, local ladies and gentlemen have come forward to assist by every means in their power, while the monster Lucky Bag has been so skilfully handled that over 30,000 tickets have already been disposed of.

"The lighting of the ground, which I am sure those who will see it to-night will agree is superbly done, has been accomplished by that hard-working body, the Lighting Committee.

"The grounds and garden testify to the work of the Committee in their charge, whilst the Shannon River, the Galloping Horses, and the Skating Rink are most generously put at our disposal by the proprietor of the Skating Rink, who in every way has given the greatest possible assistance to the Fête.

"The Military Tournament, organised by a most efficient Military Committee, has an extremely interesting programme of varied events, which cannot fail to be immensely popular. Its work has been very heavy, as the amount of training and rehearsal necessary for the production of so splendid a spectacle has of necessity extended over a prolonged period. My sincere thanks, therefore, are due to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men who have so generously given us their time and assistance. But to go into further detail would detain you too long and keep you away from the many pleasures already alluded to, so I will now briefly record my most grateful thanks to those who have organised the many remaining entertainments, such as the Highland Gathering, the Flower Show, the Photographic Exhibition, the Dog Show, the Boxing Tournament, the Café Chantant, the Great Telescope, the Doll Show, the first Motor Show, held under the auspices of the Bengal Automobile Association, and Prince's Restaurant, which had been arranged by the Dining

*Minto Fancy Fête.*

Committee with the generous assistance of Messrs. Kellner & Co. I must also mention the massed bands who will produce a splendid selection of music, the rehearsal of which has lasted over a considerable time, and the services of the various other bands, who are so kindly taking part in the Fête, must also be acknowledged.

"Although it would be impossible to enumerate by name every one who has come forward to give us their active help and support, I cannot close these few remarks without expressing my deep indebtedness to the Joint Honorary Secretaries, Colonel Crooke-Lawless and Mr. Palmer, who for months past have so freely given their best energies and the whole of their leisure in working out every detail of this great undertaking.

"Your Excellency, Your Highnesses, Ladies, and Gentlemen, this Fête is in the cause of Charity. I ask you to unite with me in making it an unqualified success.

"I will now ask Your Excellency to declare the Fête Ground open."

His Excellency, in declaring the Fête open, made the following reply :—]

*Your Excellency*,—I am very pleased to be here to-day to receive the address with which you have presented me on behalf of the Committee of the Minto Fête.

I have listened with the greatest interest to all you have told me of its objects and its organisation, and I hope that what you have said will quite dispel any belief, which possibly may have at one time existed, that the profits you hope to earn were to be devoted exclusively to the Indian Nursing Association. For much as I sympathise with the objects of that Association and deeply impressed as I am by the urgent need for available nursing throughout India, yet I hope that the Hospitals and Nursing Associations of Calcutta will largely benefit by the efforts of Your Excellency and those who have so energetically assisted you.

I hope that His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan may be able to visit the Fête, and that he may carry away with him pleasant recollections of the entertainments you have provided for the people of Calcutta.

I am delighted to see that the blue-jackets of H.M.S.



*Unveiling of Sir John Woodburn's Statue.*

*Perseus* are here to share with the Army in assisting towards the success of the tournament, and I am much looking forward to visiting the grounds and numerous shows upon which so much thought and labour have been expended.

It is a great pleasure to me to be able to participate in to-day's ceremonies, as it gives me an opportunity of associating myself with Lady Minto in expressing our gratitude to all who have devoted so much time and trouble to this great undertaking. It only remains now for the public to show by their patronage that they appreciate the unwearied and self-denying efforts of the organisers of the Fête and of a large band of workers who have carried out their ideas, and that they are in full sympathy with its objects.

May I congratulate Your Excellency very heartily on the successful issue of your exertions and upon the auspicious inauguration of the Fête, which I now declare to be open.

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#### UNVEILING OF SIR JOHN WOODBURN'S STATUE.

22nd Mar. 1907.

[This ceremony was performed by His Excellency the Viceroy on Friday afternoon, the 22nd March. A large gathering was present on the occasion, but the proceedings were marred by inclement weather.

The Hon'ble Mr. A. A. Apcar, on behalf of the Executive Committee, in asking the Viceroy to unveil the statue, said that this commemoration of the late Sir John was the outcome of the respect and admiration felt by all classes of the community for one who had not only won the hearts of all, but had shown himself an able and efficient administrator of the great province over which he ruled. Mr. Apcar also referred to the death of Sir John at his post in circumstances that were most tragic.

His Excellency having unveiled the statue made the following reply:—]

*Your Honour, Ladies, and Gentlemen,*—I feel that the ceremony in which I have been invited to take part must

*Unveiling of Sir John Woodburn's Statue.*

be full of sad recollections for the many friends of Sir John Woodburn who are to-day gathered together around his statue, and I am grateful for the opportunity of sharing with them in doing honour to the memory of one who throughout an arduous public life had by his sympathetic personality and sacrifice to duty so universally gained the affection and admiration of all with whom he came in contact. I never knew Sir John Woodburn, but I came to India to find the love for him very fresh in the hearts of the people of Calcutta, and yet till his later days he had not belonged to Bengal. Much of his earlier service had been given to what are now the United Provinces, and especially to the Province of Oudh, where he possessed a host of friends and where his name is still a household word. He came here as Lieutenant-Governor in 1898. If he ever felt a secret regret that it had not fallen to his lot to rule over the provinces of his first love, he never betrayed it by word or outward sign, and within a year of assuming charge of his great office he had won the confidence of all his officers, the esteem of the public, and the affection of all who enjoyed his personal friendship. Long before he died he had earned the reputation of being the best beloved Lieutenant-Governor Bengal had ever had. Sympathy, loyalty, courage and courtliness were the key-notes of his character, and worked their unfailing magic on all who came within their spell. He possessed the great gift of drawing forth all that was best in those with whom he came in contact; of seeing with their eyes and leading them to see with his; of inspiring them with some portion of his own of hopefulness of duty and of zeal. His love of India was deep-rooted and sincere. Speaking once in the Bengal Council he said that for four generations his house had eaten the salt of India, and it was an abiding sorrow to him that he was the last of his name and that he had no son to give to India in return for all that India had given to him. Nowhere was his insight into the feelings and

*Unveiling of Sir John Woodburn's Statue.*

prejudices of the people of India more wisely displayed than in his treatment of the plague. Within a few days of Sir John Woodburn's assuming charge as Lieutenant-Governor the first cases of plague occurred in Calcutta, and for a short time something resembling a panic prevailed. At that time the policy favoured by the sanitary authorities in Europe involved very stringent measures of segregation of the sick, the evacuation and even destruction of infected buildings, and the isolation of travellers from suspected areas. Sir John Woodburn was the first among the provincial Governors to realise how profoundly repugnant this policy was to Indian sentiment, and how we were defeating our own ends by attempting to force on the people measures which had no hope of success unless assisted by their willing co-operation. It was in a large degree owing to his representations and example that wiser counsels ultimately prevailed, with the result that where plague still unhappily endures our task is confined to combating the encroachments of the disease, and we have not to face the added labour of overcoming the hostility and opposition of the sufferers themselves. And he took special interest in all that pertained to the administration of Calcutta itself. Probably no Lieutenant-Governor before him had ever done so much in the way of constantly watching all important schemes which were in progress. He used to ride round the city a great deal both for this purpose and also to encourage and popularise the measures for plague prevention. It was this that led to the adoption of an equestrian statue, as it was thus that the people knew him best. Among the lessons which Sir John Woodburn learned from his long association with the Talukdars of Oudh was the importance of securing the goodwill and attachment of the landed aristocracy of India, the natural leaders of the people. He realised the greatness of their influence for good or for evil, and the unwisdom as well as injustice of giving them any reason to believe that their

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*Unveiling of Sir John Woodburn's Statu*

interests were less regarded by Government than those of their tenantry. He spared no pains to eradicate this feeling and to show that it was unfounded, and it was largely due to his advocacy that the Settled Estates Act eventually became law; by this measure he sought to secure to the great hereditary families of Bengal the permanent possession of their estates, confident in the assurance that with every house thus established there would be added fresh strength to the just and wise administration of the Empire.

In the lighter duties attaching to his office, in social intercourse with every class, Indian or European, Sir John Woodburn was at his best. There have been few Lieutenant-Governors who have enjoyed a wider circle of friends amongst the non-official community. His hospitality was lavish and dignified; his private generosity was catholic and far-reaching, but wholly without ostentation; in every relation of life he worthily upheld the finest traditions of his service; and when he died, a few bare months before he might have hoped to pass into an honoured retirement, the concourse that gathered round his grave and the thousands who crowded to the memorial meeting at the Town Hall were a living testimony to the regard and affection which he inspired throughout the province which for nearly five years had been subject to his rule. Your Honour, Ladies, and Gentlemen, I am indeed proud to unveil the statue of such a man.

[His Highness the Maharaja of Darbhanga would have read his speech in the course of which he was to have moved a vote of thanks to His Excellency the Viceroy for consenting to perform the unveiling ceremony, but as the rain came down heavily this was taken as read.]

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## DEBATE ON THE BUDGET, 1907-8.

27th Mar. 1907 [On the 20th March the Hon'ble Mr. E. N. Baker introduced the Financial Statement. The discussion upon it took place on the 27th idem. The chief items were reductions in the salt tax and postal rates, the announcement of which was received with much satisfaction. Most of the Hon'ble Members spoke on the occasion and many interesting speeches were heard. His Excellency the Viceroy closed the Debate with the following speech :—]

I rejoice that the continued prosperity of India enables me to renew my congratulations of last year to my friend the Hon'ble Mr. Baker on the pursuance of a well-considered financial policy, the details of which he has placed before us with so much clearness and which has again enabled him to announce a substantial remission of taxation in the coming year.

But in the midst of these good times—these times of comparative plenty before which the spectre of famine is falling back—we must not shut our eyes to the misery that is still amongst us—the perennial harvest of the plague. I confess to some surprise at hearing so little mention of its ravages in to-day's speeches. Recent reports are most depressing. The marked decline in the mortality which occurred in 1906 has not been maintained in the present year. Taking the months of January and February, the figures for the last five years show a progressive increase during those months up to the year 1905 when 252,567 deaths were recorded. In 1906 the mortality for these two months fell to 47,505. It has now suddenly risen to 157,640, more than three times the number of deaths recorded last year. The disease is at its worst in the Punjab and the United Provinces, whence no fewer than 102,529 deaths have been reported during January and February. A similar rise of mortality has occurred in the Bombay Presidency. Excluding Bombay city, where there has been no increase, there have been 19,841 deaths during the last two months against 6,071 in January and February

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1906. In Burma, which escaped plague entirely until two years ago, the deaths in January and February reached a total of 3,574 compared with 1,370 in the same months of 1906.

In the United Provinces the city of Lucknow is suffering severely from the disease. During the week ending the 16th March 521 deaths occurred, while in the previous weeks 513 and 266 deaths were recorded. The Government of India have done their best to combat it. In a Resolution published on the 17th January 1906, they stated the results of the practical experience which had been acquired in the previous five years of actual plague administration. They indicated the preventive measures the utility of which appeared to have been established, and they pointed out that their application must depend upon the circumstances of the locality, the character of the people, the stage which the disease has reached and the agency available for dealing with it. In view of the great variety of conditions in different provinces they declined to lay down a uniform scheme of plague administration, and they left it to the Local Governments to determine which of the various measures admissible are practicable or expedient at particular times and places, and finally they observed that in the last resort all preventive action depends for its success upon the hearty co-operation of the people themselves. It is needless to go now into the efforts Government have made and are making to trace the origin of the disease. Much admirable work has been done, and we can only hope that scientific investigations may at last help us to check it. I only tell you the sad story of to-day.

Yet there is much to be thankful for. The monsoon showered the breath of life almost impartially throughout India, and the land has brought forth in plenty. Mr. Baker tells us that the area under the cotton crop is more than a million of acres in excess of that of last year, whilst the estimated yield exceeds that of any previous year by over a

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million bales ; that the cultivation of jute has grown in area by 200,000 acres and in outturn by 600,000 bales as compared with any former return, whilst it is estimated that the jute crop of last year realized 40 crores of rupees. Our Land Revenue tells a tale of increasing wealth—of wealth to great proprietors, but still more, I hope, of abundance of the necessities of life to the small tiller of the soil. He is the man we must strive to help. He is to a great extent the backbone of the population of India. On his welfare depends much of the happiness and the contentment of the people. And we have been able to do something for him. The reduction of the salt tax to Re. 1 a maund throughout the whole of India means very palpable relief. Certainly the tax cannot be termed a heavy one, and it is really the only obligatory tax which falls on the great mass of the population. As I understand my Hon'ble Colleague the incidence of the duty will now work out to less than  $2\frac{3}{4}$  annas per head of the population, and yet in a poor household the amount is very appreciable. It means a loss of £1,266,700 in our revenue for 1907-08, but in addition to the boon we are conferring on the people our experience of former reductions fully justifies us in assuming that the consumption of salt will more than respond to the reduction in duty.

But we have undertaken this reduction in the salt duty in the face of another loss to our revenue—a very serious loss. My Hon'ble Colleague tells us that "proposals have been submitted by the Chinese Government for the gradual reduction of the imports of Indian opium into China *pari passu* with the gradual contraction of the production of opium in that country, the object in view being the eventual extinction of the opium habit among the Chinese," and in recognition of China's proposals we have already notified a reduction in the number of chests of Bengal opium for sale in 1907-08 to 49,200 as compared with 52,800 last year. We are also reducing the area of opium cultivation.

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The intention of the Chinese Government, as I understand it, is that the reduction of imports of Indian opium into China should be spread over ten years, at the end of which period they should cease. At first sight, I grant that China's proposals are very alarming as to their possible effects on Indian revenues. But I am afraid I am unable to follow the Hon'ble the Nawab of Dacca in his sweeping assumption that India is about to be sacrificed for the pleasure of a few faddists. Neither do I think we are entitled to doubt the good faith of the Chinese Government as to the objects of their proposals. Papers which I have had recently before me indicate every intention on the part of China to reduce with a strong hand the consumption of opium and the growth of the poppy in her own territory. I am no opium faddist. I quite admit the hardship a proscription of opium would entail on those who use it in moderation as many in this country do, and I am well aware of the difficulties surrounding any attempt to reduce its production. But there is no doubt throughout the civilized world a feeling of disgust at the demoralizing effect of the opium habit in excess. It is a feeling in which we cannot but share. We could not with any self-respect refuse to assist China on the grounds of loss of revenue to India.

I notice that the Hon'ble Tikka Sahib recognises the harm that intoxicating drugs are already doing amongst the manly race from which he springs and welcomes the orders to reduce cultivation of opium as beneficial to his people.

I admit that the task China has set herself may be greater than she can accomplish, and that we have a perfect right to require that in agreeing to the reduction of imports from India we should be satisfied of the results of China's efforts to reduce her own internal opium production. But notwithstanding the prospect of a heavy loss in revenue, I hope we may accept what I believe to be my Hon'ble Colleague's view, that provided the transition state through



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which we must pass is spread over a sufficient number of years, we need apprehend no financial disaster, and may reasonably believe that the expansion of our sources of revenue will continue to guarantee our future prosperity. For the coming year at any rate we are, I think, entitled to look with satisfaction on much that it has been possible to provide for—a reduction in postal rates, a largely increased expenditure on education, and assistance to Provincial expenditure on Famine Relief, are all measures which should prove of far-reaching public benefit.

In respect to Railways, the Hon'ble Mr. Finlay has explained the reasons which have made it necessary "to omit from next year's estimate any provision for starting the construction of new lines, to retard slightly the progress of lines under construction and to reduce to a small extent the expenditure on special works of open lines." It has been necessary to provide for a very large expenditure upon rolling stock, and I am glad to see that the Hon'ble Mr. Apcar, speaking on behalf of the trading interests of Calcutta, welcomes the provisions which have been made to meet a deficiency which have naturally elicited much bitter criticism from the commercial world. However, we may do well to remember that a shortage in rolling stock has often before now been the evidence of a sudden prosperity which it has been momentarily impossible to meet. I am inclined to ask with my Hon'ble Colleague, if, judging from the custom of great trading companies elsewhere, it would not be possible for Indian Companies to relieve the pressure which exists by supplying their own wagons to a certain extent? I am afraid I cannot find it so easy to follow him in his view that Government guarantees are detrimental to private enterprise. I have seen not a little of rapid railway development by private enterprise, but I have never suspected that such development was likely to be delayed by a Government guarantee. My experience has rather been that Government guarantees have very largely

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encouraged private enterprise. Indeed, with my short acquaintance with India I am rather inclined to suspect that private enterprise may have suffered from want of Government support.

In respect to Military expenditure, I congratulate His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in the very clear statement he has given to us. His explanation of the manner in which the Army in India is being redistributed will, I trust, assist to disabuse the public mind of many misconceptions. I doubt whether the value of Lord Kitchener's attempt to create a self-contained Divisional organization has ever been sufficiently appreciated, whilst all that he has done and is still doing to improve the position of the sepoy cannot be too widely known. He has also told us that conditions affecting the pay of British officers of the Indian Army is under consideration.

I am convinced that though the initial outlay of Lord Kitchener's scheme is necessarily heavy, its completion will tend not only to increased efficiency in many directions but will save much of the waste of past years, and ensure what I know the Commander-in-Chief has warmly at heart, a sound system of economical administration in the Army.

The Hon'ble Sir Steyning Edgerley in his very interesting speech dealt with many topics requiring much more detailed consideration than it would be possible to devote to them to-day, but I can assure him of my full agreement with the views he has expressed of the sympathetic treatment we owe to the Bombay Chiefs, whilst in all he said as to the evils of centralized administration he will find himself in entire accord with many an overworked public servant in this country. Perhaps I speak feelingly as one who is called upon to overrule a Local Government on such a weighty matter as the extravagant purchase of a horse valued at Rs. 70, or to check the heavy expenditure entailed by the unpardonable demand of some distant Collector for

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the erection of a bath-room, and simultaneously to guard the interests of India in connection with the administration of a world-wide Empire. I do not think we can go on as we are. We can, I hope, do something to shake off the unnecessary chains that bind us. Perhaps we are on the eve of new possibilities.

The Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale tempts me to foreshadow the future. I am afraid at present I can only do so faintly. I recognise with him that politically India is in a transition state, that new and just aspirations are springing up amongst its people, which the ruling power must be prepared not only to meet but to assist. A change is rapidly passing over the land, and we cannot afford to dally. And to my mind nothing would be more unfortunate for India than that the Government of India should fail to recognise the signs of the times. I have deemed it all important that the initiative of possible reforms should emanate from us. I have felt that nothing would be more mischievous to British administration in India in the future than a belief that its Government had acted on no conviction of their own, but simply in submission to agitation in this country and in accordance with instructions conveyed to them from home. If there has been misconception as to this I hope I may be allowed this opportunity of correcting it. The story as far as I can tell it at present is simply this. That last autumn I appointed a Committee of my Council to consider the possibility of a development of administrative machinery in accordance with the new conditions we were called upon to face. The Committee's report was considered by my Council, and a Despatch expressing the views of my Colleagues and myself has been forwarded to the Secretary of State. What I would impress upon you is that this move in advance has emanated entirely from the Government of India, and that we are justly entitled to deny any accusation of "an inadequate appreciation of the realities of the present situation."

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*Army Temperance Association Meeting.*

We have now to await the reply of the Secretary of State, and there is no intention that any legislation should be undertaken before the public in India and at home have had ample opportunity for an expression of opinion on the proposals we have placed before him. I can assure all those who are interested in this great question that the Despatch we have recently addressed to Mr. Morley is fraught with great possibilities, and I earnestly trust that the suggestions it contains may go far towards satisfying the pressing requirements of the Indian Empire.

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ARMY TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION MEETING.

[The Annual Meeting of the Association was held in the afternoon 5th July 1907. of the 5th July. The meeting was well attended, among those present being the Commander-in-Chief, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and the Bishop of Lahore. His Excellency the Viceroy presided and opened the proceedings with the following speech :—]

*Your Honour, Your Excellency, Ladies, and Gentlemen*,—The Revd. Mr. Bateson has asked me to be present this afternoon at the Annual Meeting of the Royal Army Temperance Association, and I assure you it gives me real pleasure to be here to share in the public recognition of the great work the Association has done and is doing to further the efficiency, the welfare, and the happiness, too, of the British Army in India. No one could be more delighted than I am to see the place that your Association has so deservedly won for itself, not only in the Army, but in public esteem, and I congratulate you on His Majesty the King-Emperor having become your Patron. The increase in your strength, of which your General Secretary tells me, is ample evidence of your prosperity. Your average membership for 1906-07 was, I understand, 24,731, an increase in the year of 920.

*Army Temperance Association Meeting.*

I hope recruits will continue to pour into your ranks, for you are doing a great Imperial work, you are helping to raise the moral standard of the Army of which we are so proud—and what does that mean? It means that you are pointing out to every individual soldier the inestimable value of that self-restraint which will enable him to rule himself, to keep his body fit and his wits clear for the day of trouble and the moment of emergency. You are teaching him self-respect—and not only that, you are showing him how by his demeanour he can make himself, his regiment, and his country respected in whatever part of the world he is called upon to serve.

I know well the temptations a young soldier has to face when he comes to India—the utter change from home life and home associations, a climate trying to many men's constitutions, the debilitating *ennui* of barrack life in the hot weather, and the longing for some excitement to help to pass away weary hours. Your Association has done much to help the men to withstand the evils that surround them, but we must remember too that the good-will and the sterling stuff of which the men themselves are made has done much to help the Association. Your Association and its members working hand in hand are changing the whole tone of the Army for the better. In respect to temperance it has indeed changed greatly in my recollection. The sobriety which is gaining ground in other ranks of life, too, is making its influence felt upon the Army. In the Duke of Wellington's armies and much later than that, hard drinking was characteristic of both officers and men. No one admires the old soldier of those days more than I do. He was a splendid fighter, carried his pack, was ready to march any distance, and to get drunk on the first opportunity—but he was invincible. I suppose the debauchery of the British Army after the storming of Badajoz has scarcely ever been equalled, and if my recollection of history is correct—I am only speaking from memory—the Duke of

*Army Temperance Association Meeting.*

Wellington after the victory of Vittoria had 12,000 men absent—chiefly looting. But they were as hard as iron and they had few of the comforts of these days—they fought till long after the Peninsular War, buttoned up in old-fashioned uniforms and choked at the neck by a stiff stock. I have pictures at home of battles in India in the early days of 1800, depicting Generals in cocked hats and high collars and their men in shakos under a burning sun—even as late as the Mutiny stocks were still in existence, and the sun helmet of to-day was not invented. How officers and men did what they did in that scorching heat it is hard to understand.

We certainly live in more luxurious days than the old soldiers of the Peninsular, of the Crimea, or of the Mutiny—and much as I believe in the comforts and care for our men of the present day, we must not forget that it is endurance and the power to sustain the hardships of war that will win our battles for us as they did of old. To these great qualities your Association is adding the high moral standard and sense of duty which will lead our men to victory, even more certainly than the mere dare-devil courage of our forefathers. But remember it is the manly qualities which go to make the soldier—and your Association can call no better allies to its aid than manly sports and games.

I have seldom enjoyed myself more than during the few hours I was in this hall at a somewhat different gathering not so many nights ago, and saw many hard knocks given and taken by the well trained representatives of many regiments fighting for the credit of their corps—splendid examples of sober temperate lives. Your Associations with its moral teaching and the manly training it encourages may well be proud of its success. To me it has been a peculiar pleasure to come here this evening to see so many soldiers around me, for I began my life in the Army and have served, I think I may say, in a certain number of campaigns, and to me all soldiers are still comrades. So

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*Seditious Meetings Bill.*

that it has been very welcome to me if by being present this evening I have been in any way able to further the prospects of the Association which is doing so much for the Army.

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### SEDITIONOUS MEETINGS BILL.

2nd Nov. 1907. [For some months past the state of things in India had been such as to warn the Government that there was a feeling of unrest in the country generally. In Eastern Bengal there had been trouble with the population, which was led more or less by the student class. Efforts to suppress the growing agitation were made, but at the time without effect. The holding of public meetings by agitators fanned the flame of unrest. In April riots broke out in Lahore, which were followed by riots at Rawalpindi. Attempts had also been made to tamper with the Native Army, reports from various provinces told a tale of violent meetings and disorder, and generally the situation was serious. On May 3rd, Sir Denzil Ibbetson, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, asked that, in order to prevent seditious teaching in his province, warrants should be issued for the arrest and deportation, under Regulation III of 1818, of two of the principal agitators, *viz.*, Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh. The warrants were issued, and the two men deported in May and June. Subsequently, under section 23 of the Act of 1861, to regulate public meetings, an Ordinance was issued, and was applied to certain areas in Eastern Bengal and the Punjab.

This Ordinance was to have effect up to 10th November 1907. Meanwhile having regard to the state of feeling, and in order to regulate public meetings, a draft Bill, called the Seditious Meetings Bill, was prepared and discussed in Legislative Council. Much opposition was made to the proposed Bill: several telegrams and letters opposing it were received, and the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale and the Hon'ble Dr. Rashbehari Ghose attacked the Bill violently in Council, which, however, was carried by a majority of 9 to 3. The Bill thus became Law, and His Excellency, in closing the proceedings of the meeting, spoke as follows :—]

Before I in any way attempt to discuss the merits of the measure we have had before us, I feel that I shall very fully express the views of my Hon'ble Colleagues in saying

*Seditious Meetings Bill.*

that they have only asked for the powers it confers and accepted the policy it embodies with the gravest feelings of responsibility and after much thoughtful deliberation, and that though we have considered legislation to be a matter of urgent necessity, we have been most anxious, notwithstanding the remarks which have fallen from the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale, to afford the Indian public ample time for an expression of opinion upon the line of action we have decided to adopt. On the 18th October Sir Harvey Adamson introduced the Bill, and in doing so told us that the Government of India had been unwillingly forced to the conclusion that, when the Ordinance expired, it was necessary, not only to continue the powers it gave, but to define more clearly certain of the provisions it contained. He has to-day entered still more fully into the history of the Bill, and has very ably explained to us its various clauses and the amendments suggested in the Select Committee's Report. There is therefore no reason for me to attempt to further elucidate its technicalities, and I would only venture to recapitulate to Council the course of events and influences which have led up to our present position. That position the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale and the Hon'ble Dr. R. Ghose have fully dealt with, and I can assure them I gladly recognise their honesty of purpose and the sincerity of their endeavours to advance the political claims of their fellow-countrymen, but I am afraid my Hon'ble Colleagues have allowed their enthusiasm for the cause of political reform to blind them to the necessities of the moment, and that they have failed to recognise that the first duty of any Government is the maintenance of law and order and the protection of the people entrusted to its charge. They would lead us to believe that we have been frightened by a phantom, that we have accepted the vapourings of a few agitators as evidence of dangerous sedition, and that by the Act which we have passed we are imputing disloyalty to the masses of the people of



*Seditious Meetings Bill.*

India,—that I emphatically deny,—but at the same time I refuse altogether to minimize the meaning of the warnings and anxieties of the last few months.

We cannot afford to forget the events of the early spring—the riots at Lahore and gratuitous insults to Europeans, the Pindi riots, the serious view of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab on the state of his Province, the consequent arrest of Lajpat Rai and Ajit Singh, and the promulgation of the Ordinance, and, contemporaneously with all this, a daily story from Eastern Bengal of assault, of looting, of boycotting, and general lawlessness, encouraged by agitators, who, with an utter disregard for consequences no matter how terrible, have by public addresses, by seditious newspapers, by seditious leaflets and itinerant secret agents, lost no opportunity of inflaming the worst passions of racial feeling, and have not hesitated to attempt to tamper with the loyalty of our magnificent Indian Army. I hope that Your Excellency as Commander-in-Chief will, on my behalf as Viceroy and as representative of the King-Emperor, convey to His Majesty's Indian troops my thanks for the contempt with which they have received the disgraceful overtures which I know have been made to them. The seeds of sedition have been unscrupulously scattered throughout India, even amongst the hills of the frontier tribes. We are grateful that it has fallen on much barren ground, and can no longer allow the dissemination of unlimited poison.

That is the position the Government of India have had to face—that is why we have had to tighten the curb and shorten the reins. That is why we have felt compelled to provide ourselves with a weapon against insidious attacks.

The Bill is aimed at the inaugurators of dangerous sedition, not at political reform, not at the freedom of speech of the people of India.

But there is another side to all this. I am well aware of the growing strength of political hopes and ambitions in this country, and I welcome them as the natural results of the

*Seditious Meetings Bill.*

education British administrators have done so much to introduce and to encourage. I have said so over and over again, and I deny the accusation of a disregard of the growing influence of the educated classes of India. Far from wishing to check the growth of political thought, I have hoped that, with proper guidance, Indian capacity and Indian patriotism might earn for its people a greater share in the government of their country. They have proposals before them now which I trust may greatly contribute towards that end. The Government of India would be blind indeed to shut its eyes to the awakening wave which is sweeping over the Eastern world, overwhelming old traditions, and bearing on its crest a flood of new ideas. We cannot check its flow, we can but endeavour to direct it into such channels as may benefit the generations that are to come.

We may repress sedition—we will repress it with a strong hand, but the restlessness of new-born and advancing thought we cannot repress. We must be prepared to meet it with help and guidance. We must seek for its causes.

In the first speech I made on my arrival in this country I said that I looked “for assistance in furthering that sense of security and rest throughout the length and breadth of India so indispensable for the development of her internal resources, and her over-sea trade, for the careful consideration of her vital necessities and the general happiness of her people.” Is it too much to hope that the leaders of Indian political thought will give that assistance to the Government of India? I can assure my Hon’ble Colleagues, the Hon’ble Mr. Gokhale and the Hon’ble Dr. Rashbehari Ghose, that a heavy responsibility rests on the shoulders of Indian reformers, for it is upon their support and upon their influence with their fellow-countrymen that British administrators should largely be able to rely.

I will not believe that the great bulk of the educated community are opposed to law and order, and I do believe that the masses of the Indian people render loyal homage to

*Seditious Meetings Bill.*

their King-Emperor. Moreover, I repudiate once for all the insinuation that has sometimes reached me, that the Government of India has, for political reasons, favoured the interests of one community against those of another. It has been the pride of the British Raj to balance without prejudice the claims of nationalities, of religions, and of castes; it will continue to do so, and I am grateful for the numerous expressions of loyalty I have received from Ruling Chiefs, and from the leaders of influential Associations of every denomination throughout India.

I have merely sketched the conditions which appear to me to surround us, and I come now to the business of to-day, to the question of the utilisation, so to speak, of the Act which we have just passed. It seems to have been very generally assumed that, because it is applicable to the whole of India, it is to be universally enforced. That has never been the intention of the Government of India. The Bill, as the Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson has explained, was framed to meet the peculiar circumstances of certain localities and to take the place of the Ordinance when it lapsed automatically on the 10th November. The Ordinance has been in force for six months in the Punjab and in Eastern Bengal, and it has been our duty to consider, in consultation with the Lieutenant-Governors of those Provinces, to what extent we need now rely upon the Act. Sir Denzil Ibbetson has replied that quiet is restored in the Punjab, and that he has no need for extra powers, and Sir Lancelot Hare has asked for them only in the district of Bakarganj. With the exception of that district therefore there will be now in India no legislation in force that did not exist before the promulgation of the Ordinance. I earnestly trust that there will be no further need for an appeal to the powers of the Act, but should the necessity unfortunately arise, the Government of India will not hesitate instantly to support the demands of its Lieutenant-Governors.

I am very far from saying that our anxieties have passed

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*State Banquet at Hyderabad.*

away,—there is much cause for watchful thought as to the state of affairs in many parts of India, and especially in Eastern Bengal—the future happiness of that Province rests with her people and their leaders. We cordially extend to them a helping hand, and I hope they will not hesitate to take it.

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## STATE BANQUET AT HYDERABAD.

[His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto, Lady Violet Elliot and Staff, left Simla on the morning of the 6th November on His Excellency's Autumn Tour. After a visit to the Ellora Caves and a halt at Ahmednagar, where His Excellency presented colours to the 2nd Battalion, Worcestershire Regiment, and inspected the Remount Depot, Hyderabad was reached on the 12th idem. On the night of the 13th idem His Highness the Nizam gave a State Banquet, at which His Excellency spoke as follows:—]

*Your Highness*,—It has been a great pleasure to me to be able to accept the invitation you so cordially extended to me, and I have long looked forward to the realisation of this visit. I very fully recognise, as does Your Highness, the immense value of personal relations between the ruler of your State and the representative of the King-Emperor. Those relations I thank you for enabling me to continue, and I hope that in the present case they may constitute the foundation of a lasting personal friendship. The ceremony of Your Highness's installation took place, I believe, in the very room in which we are this evening assembled, in the presence of Lord Ripon, and since then you have received as your guest every successive Viceroy of India, and I can assure Your Highness that Lady Minto and I will never forget the brilliancy and magnificence of the welcome you have extended to us, and the cordiality of the vast crowd of your subjects who thronged our route through the streets of the historical capital of your State. Much has happened

*State Banquet at Hyderabad.*

since Your Highness assumed the reins of Government in 1884. The condition of affairs to which you succeeded was not free from difficulty, and I hope I may venture to congratulate Your Highness on the administrative development which you have done so much to perfect, and on the establishment of a financial equilibrium of which you may be justly proud. Your Highness's State, I know, owes much to the ability of your financial adviser, Mr. Casson Walker. He looks back, I have no doubt, to a great deal of weary and uphill work. All financial reformers, I am afraid, must do so, but he can feel, owing to the encouraging and consistent support which Your Highness has always extended to him, that his task has been well completed. But it is not only in the internal administration of your State that Your Highness has been so deeply interested, for it was as long ago as 1885, when war on the North-West Frontier seemed imminent, that you came forward with a generous offer of substantial aid from which sprang the idea of those Imperial Service Troops which took practical shape three years later, the gradual development of which has been a special pride to the Princes whose servants they are, and has furnished such a splendid addition to the Military forces of the Empire. I am sure Your Highness will allow me to congratulate that distinguished soldier, Colonel Afzul-ul-Mulk, on the two fine regiments of Imperial Lancers he raised and has so long commanded.

Hyderabad has done much to support the Imperial Cadet Corps. Your Highness has sent some very fine recruits to the corps and may, I hope, yet give us some more of the same sort. I am very anxious for the success of the Cadet Corps. It affords a good education and an excellent manly training for the trials and responsibilities of every-day life, but I am quite aware that in respect to the openings it offers for a military career a further development is required, and that is one of those very points in which I trust that the advice of an Imperial Advisory Council may be of much

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*State Banquet at Hyderabad.*

assistance to the Viceroy. There are many questions, apart from the mere administration of British India, with which the great feudatory States are daily becoming more directly connected as matters of Imperial concern. For many years the only welding influence which bound them together was their allegiance to the Crown, but lately, owing to a variety of causes, a recognition of common interests has been gradually forming, and enlightened and farsseeing Chiefs are naturally no longer content to play a passive part in the midst of a world of movement and advance. I hope that they will not hesitate to come into a closer partnership with the Government of India; that they will welcome the advantage of a more personal touch with the Government, and that they will be ready to offer to the Viceroy the benefit of their experience and knowledge, which must always be of much value to him. Like Your Highness, I also believe in the immeasurable value of a sympathetic rule. I believe in a knowledge of, and a careful regard for, the sentiments of the people and of their great hereditary rulers, and I trust that as years roll on they and the British Raj will work together in ever-increasing unison of thought and aspiration for the glory and happiness of the Indian Empire. May I venture to congratulate Your Highness on possessing in the Hon'ble Mr. Bayley a Resident so able and ready to further the interests of your State and its relations with the Government of India. I thank you again, Your Highness, for the kind words you have addressed to Lady Minto and myself, and I ask you, Ladies and Gentlemen, to join with me in drinking to the health and happiness of His Highness the Nizam.

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## ADDRESS FROM RECEPTION COMMITTEE, RANGOON.

20th Nov. 1907. [His Excellency the Viceroy and party arrived at Rangoon on the 20th November 1907, having sailed from Madras instead of from Cocanada as originally intended, owing to stormy weather at the latter place. On landing from the R.I.M.S. *Dufferin* His Excellency was met by His Honour Sir H. T. White, Lieutenant-Governor of Burma, and all the principal officers of the province, and an address of welcome on behalf of the inhabitants of Rangoon was then presented, to which His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you sincerely for the cordiality of the welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself on behalf of all nationalities of the inhabitants of Rangoon.

I have heard from many independent sources of the splendid and lavish preparations your Reception Committee has made for our arrival here, and I assure you we have looked forward to our visit to Burma with the keenest pleasure. And, *Gentlemen*, I cannot tell you how very much we regret the unfortunate delay in our voyage, for I am well aware of the serious inconvenience it must have caused, and I only hope that you will be able to explain that stress of weather rendered our departure from Cocanada, as we had intended, quite impracticable, whilst the difficulty of landing must have sorely tried the patience of those assembled here.

Now that we have at last come into port, I trust that with your indulgence our unpunctuality may be forgiven and that during our stay amongst you we may become personally acquainted with your leading citizens and may have some opportunity of gaining an insight into the many questions in which the various classes of the community are interested.

Lady Minto and I will always remember the hearty greeting we have received on our first arrival in your beautiful province.

## OPENING OF NEW PORT WORKS AT RANGOON.

[On the morning of the 22nd November the Viceroy and Lady 22nd Nov. 1907. Minto, accompanied by the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady White, left Government House at 7-45 A.M. and drove to the Keighley Street Jetty, where His Excellency was met by the Chairman and Port Commissioners, also by General Fenton, Commanding at Rangoon, and Mr. Shearme, Secretary to Government. A guard-of-honour of the 90th Punjabis was drawn up on the Jetty, and His Excellency inspected them and congratulated the Native officer in command on the smart appearance of his men. The Lieutenant-Governor presented the Chief Engineer, Mr. Buchanan, to His Excellency, and the party then embarked on a steam launch and were taken over the proposed line of the new wall which is to be built to confine the river to its old channel and prevent the encroachments on the banks which are daily taking place and rendering navigation difficult and dangerous. The launch then steamed to the new Shule Pagoda Wharf, where a reception pandal was erected and where a large number of people had assembled to hear the address, which was read to His Excellency by Mr. Buchanan, regarding the state of the Rangoon shipping trade and thanking His Excellency for the grant of 50 lakhs which had been made by Government towards the expenses of the new works. His Excellency was presented by Mr. Buchanan with a beautifully worked silver model of a Burmese boat, and Mr. Buchanan, on behalf of the Commissioners, presented Lady Minto with a ruby bracelet as a memento of the occasion.

His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—It has been very gratifying to Lady Minto and myself to listen to the kind words of your address on our arrival in Burma, and it is a great pleasure to me to have the opportunity of being present at this celebration to-day, which you justly say must mark an epoch in the history of the Port of Rangoon—an epoch, too, in the ever-advancing trade and prosperity of the province.

Every Viceroy who has visited Burma has spoken with enthusiasm of its continued progress. Its potentialities are perhaps greater than those of any other province—it is a land of immense natural resources with its teak forests, its enormous area under rice, and its minerals, the scientific



*Opening of New Port Works at Rangoon.*

development of which is only now beginning. It is therefore all-important that the Port of Rangoon, situated on a mighty river navigable for many hundreds of miles, should be so equipped as to enable it to deal not only with the huge volume of exports and imports now passing through it, but with the vast development of trade which the experience of the past tells us so triumphantly must continue to increase for many years to come. You tell me very truly that "the work of constructing a port is one that is never finished"—the estuaries of great rivers are, I know, always wayward things to control. I have seen something of them in the New World, where the great enemy the engineer has to combat is the overwhelming power of ice—a difficulty I cannot think is likely to be met with here.

The works which the Commissioners have in hand are, I understand, four in number—increase of quayage and of shed accommodation, dredging, and the great undertaking of training the river. The permanent stability of safe approaches to a port is, we all know, a matter of the utmost concern in the interests of trade, and rivers in the East have a notorious tendency to despise all efforts to bring them under control and an aptitude for sweeping away lakhs of rupees that in the shape of dams and piers have been poured into their beds. But, Gentlemen, I hope and believe that the training of the waters which you are so courageously undertaking will prove to be one of the engineering triumphs of the world, against which this mighty river may strive in vain.

I am afraid figures appeal little to the imagination. There is no attractive romance about them. But the statistics you have given in your address as to the increased trade of the port since Lord Curzon's visit in 1901 are full of interest. The registered tonnage now entering the port has nearly doubled since then. The total value of the seaborne trade has increased by about 25 per cent., and your

*Opening of New Port Works at Rangoon.*

revenue has risen by about 60 per cent. in the same time whilst in the same period you have been able to carry out extensive works. I congratulate you on their success and on the judgment with which they have been financed as well as on your far-seeing recognition of the necessity for maintaining the arrangements of the port on a level with the industrial and commercial requirements of the country. Very possibly, Gentlemen, you are acquainted with a book which was lately placed in my hands, entitled "Oriental Commerce." It was compiled by an officer of the East India Company, Mr. Milburn, in 1813, during the Viceroyalty of my ancestor Lord Minto. I will not weary you with the statistics it contains, but I am sure you would find it full of interest as a comparison between the trade of Rangoon at that time and of the present day. Mr. Milburn states that the trade of the port is "very inconsiderable," though the "forests produce inexhaustible quantities of teak timber"; whilst his ideas of wharfage were evidently primitive, for he goes on to say that "the banks of the river are so soft and flat that there is little need of labour for the formation of docks," and that "Rangoon, having long been the asylum of insolvent debtors from the different settlements in India, is crowded with foreigners of desperate fortunes who find from the Burmans a friendly reception and, for the most part, support themselves by carrying on a petty trade." Again may I congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the change in the times.

I have had a statement prepared by the Commerce and Industry Department showing the aggregate sea-borne trade of Rangoon, exclusive of Government transactions, for the last five years. The figures do not quite tally with those given in your address, owing, I think, to the Department having excluded Government transactions, which are included in the figures you give. The average annual value of the imports in the period dealt with excluding coasting trade was 814½ lakhs (£5,430,000) and of the exports 1,248 lakhs

*Durbar at Lashio.*

(£8,320,000). Including the coast trade the average annual value of the trade of the port between 1902 and 1907 would appear to have been 3,400 lakhs (£22,666,666). You may indeed be well satisfied with your prospects, and I am heartily glad that the Secretary of State has approved of the Government of India sharing with the Provincial Government and with the Port Trust in the expenditure on the great schemes which you have now in hand. I should have been much disappointed if any difficulty had occurred in respect to the contribution of the Government of India.

Gentlemen, I cannot but feel that this is a great day in the history of the Port of Rangoon, and I share with you very fully in your hopes for a brilliant future, and I now declare this wharf open.

I cannot thank you sufficiently, Gentlemen, for the magnificent casket containing the address and the beautiful gift you have presented to Her Excellency, and I can assure you they will remain as heirlooms in my family in memory of this eventful day.

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#### DURBAR AT LASHIO.

27th Nov. 1907. [In the afternoon of the 27th November His Excellency the Viceroy held a Durbar at Lashio. His Excellency arrived at the Durbar Hall escorted by mounted police, and a guard-of-honour of the military police was drawn up at the entrance. Her Excellency Lady Minto, accompanied by Colonel Dunlop Smith, Private Secretary, and Captain Mackenzie, A.-D.-C., arrived shortly before the Viceroy, and was escorted by a troupe of dancers, who in fantastic disguises of dragons and peacocks preceded Her Excellency from the Residency to the Durbar Hall. When His Excellency had taken his seat in the Durbar, accompanied by the members of his Staff, Sir Louis Dane asked permission to declare the Durbar open. Mr. Thornton then presented the following Chiefs and officials to His Excellency:—The Sawbwas of Hsipaw, Townpeng, North and South Hsenwi, and Monglun; Hkun Hmon, K.S.M., Extra-Assistant Commissioner;

*Durbar at Lashio.*

Hkun Haw Yawt, T.D.M., Myosa of Monglong; Mounng Kaing, T.D.M., Public Works Minister of Hsipaw State; Lu Kwun, A.T.M., of Kokaung; U. Hkmtt Hsoi, A.T.M., Chief Minister of South Hsenwi State. When these Chiefs and officials had each made their obeisance to the Viceroy in their own peculiar manner, Captain Percy Smith, Commanding the North Shan States, presented the Native officers of his battalion. His Excellency then gave an address (a translation of which was afterwards read) as follows :—]

*Chiefs of the Northern Shan States*,—I am very glad to have this opportunity of meeting you in your own territories, and I thank you for the enthusiastic and loyal reception you have given to me.

I am glad to hear that there is a general advance in the material comfort and welfare of your people. You have contributed liberally to the construction of roads and bridges, and I trust that the recent appointment of a Government Engineer will be of great service to you and will help to improve the means of communication which are so important for the development of your States. I know that much has been done, too, to put down lawlessness and violent crime by the registration of fire-arms, but a good deal more is still required in that direction. I hope, too, that you will do all in your power to further the education of your people, for without knowledge they cannot expect to increase the resources of their country.

I am glad to hear that there is at present no more plague amongst them, but you must remember that it may very likely come back again and that the suppression of this horrible disease depends very largely on your own determination to take precautions against it. The Sawbwa of Hsipaw I know did all in his power to follow the advice of the Superintendent and Civil Surgeon upon the occasion of the recent outbreak, and deserves great praise for the valuable help he gave them.

I congratulate you on the steady improvement that has taken place in your administrations and the increasing interest you are taking in public affairs; but I must remind

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*Address from the Mandalay Municipal Committee.*

you that that improvement has been slow, and I would impress upon you the great necessity for energy in the duties of your life. If you are slow and have no energy, you will find that people will come from outside and will begin to collect for themselves the wealth of the States which should belong to you. You have now a railway from Mandalay. It has already done much to stimulate your trade, but you should take care that by your own hard work the benefits of that trade should remain in your own hands. Unless you do your best that trade may leave you. It ought very largely to increase, and should, if you are wise, add greatly to the riches of your States. For this purpose you require to spend more money at present on improvements which will afterwards increase your wealth, and you should do your best to make such money available by a reduction in your own personal expenditure, by encouraging careful habits among your people and forbidding, as far as possible, the unfortunate habit of gambling which so often adds to their poverty. You must always remember to seek for the help and advice of your Superintendent and his Assistants. They are your best friends and have your interests thoroughly at heart, and if you work with them you are sure to succeed.

I congratulate you again on what you have already done, and I hope that each succeeding year will bring increasing happiness and prosperity to yourselves and to your people.

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ADDRESS FROM THE MANDALAY MUNICIPAL  
COMMITTEE.

28th Nov. 1907. [The Viceregal party left Lashio at 11 P.M. on the night of the 27th November. They were escorted from the Residency to the station by mounted infantry, and the road was lined by hundreds of Shans, each bearing lighted torches, which produced a weird and picturesque effect as the procession passed between them. The special train arrived at Mandalay at 4-15 P.M. on the 28th. Their Excellencies were received at the station by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Lady

*Address from the Mandalay Municipal Committee.*

White and His Honour's Staff; also by Mr. Shaw, Judicial Commissioner, Upper Burma; Mr. Rice, Chief Secretary to Government; Mr. Twomey, Commissioner, Mandalay Division; General Hastings, Commanding Mandalay Brigade; and Major Macnabb, Deputy Commissioner and President of the Municipal Committee.

On His Excellency alighting on the platform a Royal salute was fired, and the guards-of-honour of the Essex Regiment and Upper Burma Volunteers presented arms. His Excellency inspected these guards-of-honour, and then proceeded to the reception pandal, where an address of welcome was read by Major Macnabb, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—It is a great pleasure to Lady Minto and myself to visit the capital of Upper Burma, and I thank you sincerely for your welcome and for the very kind words of your address. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke and Duchess of Connaught were, I know, delighted with the beauties and interests of Mandalay and with your many expressions of loyalty to the King-Emperor, and we look forward much to our stay amongst you.

You remind me that you do not possess a seaport like Rangoon, with the ever-increasing wealth of its sea-borne trade, but I venture to congratulate you on riches of another sort of which you may well be proud—on the possession of an ancient history and on the many triumphs of Burmese art and architecture which your ancestors have handed down to their posterity. Your beautiful relics of the past may perhaps be fragile—if so, they are all the more precious—and you need have no anxiety as to the sympathetic assistance of the Government of India in helping you to preserve them.

We look forward to seeing the Palace and the Fort, the monasteries and the many religious edifices for which your province is so celebrated.

Your Municipality is not old, but it is a great thing to be able to rejoice in the strength of youth, to feel that a few years of life have already been well spent and that the future before you is full of promise.

*Address from the Mandalay Municipal Committee.*

In Canada—to my administration of which you so kindly allude—I have seen much of new cities, springing up as if by magic from the prairie, and I can tell you that there is nothing which adds so much to the interests of a rising people as the romance and charm of a past history. The new world of the great dominion of Canada is full of that charm, and here I am meeting it again in all the picturesque traditions of your country.

I feel sure that in your Lieutenant-Governor you will find a friend always ready to assist you to develop your resources and to encourage the mercantile enterprise of your modern capital.

I rejoice to hear that you are so deeply interested in the sanitation of your city and that you owe so much to the munificence of an Indian gentleman, for my experience has led me to believe that, however well-intentioned any Government may be, the success of undertakings for the public good will always depend largely upon the energy and liberality of individual citizens.

I cannot tell you how deeply I regret the trials imposed upon you by the recent outbreak of plague. But the public has done much to assist your efforts to combat its ravages, and I hope that Mandalay may succeed in becoming the first city in the Indian Empire to finally eradicate this terrible pestilence.

I hope that during my short stay amongst you it may be possible for me to make myself acquainted with the requirements of Mandalay and Upper Burma and to interest myself in your future welfare. I can assure you it will be a sincere pleasure to me to do so, and Lady Minto and I will always have very pleasant memories of the warmth of the reception you have given us to-day.

[Both the address of welcome and His Excellency's reply had been translated into Burmese, and these translations were read out for the benefit of the large Burmese community assembled to welcome Their Excellencies.]

## DURBAR AT MANDALAY.

[In the afternoon of the 29th November His Excellency held a 29th Nov. 1907. Durbar in the Audience Hall of the Palace. His Excellency arrived in State, preceded by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and General Hastings, Commanding the Mandalay Division. The streets were lined with troops, the Essex Regiment furnishing a guard-of-honour with band and colours in front of the Durbar Hall. On Sir Louis Dane declaring, with His Excellency's permission, that the Durbar was open, Sir George Scott, Superintendent, Southern Shan States, presented the Chiefs of these States to His Excellency. After the presentations His Excellency bestowed the following titles on the Chiefs and officials hereafter mentioned:—The rank and title of Sawbwa on Sao Seng Hpu T.D.M., Myoza of Samka, for the importance of his State, and in view of his personal merits and loyalty to the Government. This Chief met the first column of occupation at Yawnghwe and supplied much valuable information on that occasion. The title of the Gold Chain on Hkun Hsok, Sawbwa of Lawksawk, for the admirable way in which he has administered his State. The title of the Gold Medal on U Long Kiao, who was a subordinate to the Lengtung Sawbwa, under whom he administered the sub-State of Mong Ping. He has by tact and energy restored order in a somewhat turbulent State, and has for years rendered the best assistance to the Public Works Department. The title of the Gold Chain on Maung Shwe Tha, District Superintendent of Police, who has rendered good service in the police for over 25 years and had previously rendered good service against dacoits in the Akyab district. The title of the Silver Sword on Maung Taung Ghi, Inspector of Police, for good work in tracking dacoit gangs; also on Saw Yet, Inspector of Police, for courage and detective ability displayed on several occasions. The title of the Gold Medal on Maung Ba O, Judicial Extra-Assistant Commissioner, and on Maung Tha, Trustee of the Arakan Pagoda and Honorary Magistrate in Mandalay. The title of Rai Sahib on M. Trichinopoly Maduranayagans Ponnosawmy Pillay, or good service for 34 years under Government.

After these presentations, His Excellency made the following speech:—]

*Shan Chiefs and Notables of Upper Burma*,—I met the Chiefs of the Northern Shan States at Lashio. Conditions of time and distance made it impossible for me to visit the Southern Shan States, and I am very glad that



*Durbar at Mandalay.*

the Lieutenant-Governor has given me the opportunity of meeting you here. I hope that it may not be long before a railway makes the head-quarters of your States as accessible as those of the North. I appreciate the trouble you have taken in coming so many miles in order to attend this Durbar, and thank you for your presence here.

Communications in Upper Burma have enabled representatives from all parts of the Upper Province to come to meet me here in the old Royal Audience Hall. I have still much to see, and look forward to the rest of my tour with an interest which has, if possible, been increased by my visit to the historical city of Mandalay.

I gladly welcome also this opportunity of meeting the Ministers of the late Government, as well as so many representative officials who have done and are doing such good service under the British Raj. I have already during my visit seen many striking indications of the great advance made by both Upper and Lower Burma under their present conditions of peace and security—an advance which, with the spread of railways and canals, holds out such high promise for the future. I cannot but feel that the progress made is largely due to the ready assistance obtained from other parts of India in expert advice and actual physical support, and that the old connection between Burma and the rest of India has thus been happily revived to the advantage of both countries. Still it would be well that the Burmans should realise that they must exert themselves if they wish to enjoy to the full the advantages which Providence has conferred upon them. The expansion and development of their old-established educational system ought to enable them to grasp the opportunities of betterment now within their reach, and should ensure the attainment of a higher degree of civilisation and prosperity than their country has ever enjoyed before, and which it is the earnest desire of the Government of India that it should attain.

[A translation of this speech was then read in Burmese.]

## ADDRESS AT BHAMO.

[Their Excellencies and Staff arrived at Bhamo on the afternoon 9th Dec. 1907. of the 9th December. On the landing stage were Mr. Twomey, Commissioner of Mandalay, the Deputy Commissioner of Bhamo, and the Officer Commanding the Station.

Their Excellencies on arrival were conducted to a *mandap* or temporary pavilion, gaily decorated with flags and silk, erected on the bank, a few yards away, where were collected the civil and military officers present in Bhamo and the leading inhabitants of the town and district. A guard-of-honour of 100 Native troops was drawn up on the river bank. At the *mandap* the address of welcome to His Excellency from the inhabitants of Bhamo was read, to which the Viceroy replied as follows :—]

I thank you for the address which you have presented to me as the representative of the King-Emperor, and I would request you to convey to the inhabitants of Bhamo my appreciation of the sincerity and loyalty of their welcome.

I am glad to have this opportunity of meeting the leading representatives of your district and of visiting this interesting town, the gathering place of traders of so many different races, the frontier post through which the old trade route from the Chinese Empire has for centuries passed into Burma.

I rejoice to hear your recognition of the benefits conferred by British rule, I congratulate you on the establishment of law and order and on the encouraging hopes of an advancing civilization, and I trust that in each succeeding year you may be better able, with the help of improved communications, to develop the resources of your country, and to further the possibilities of your trading interests. Your great river and the railway to Mandalay have already done much for you in that direction, and I share in your hopes for a time when the railway system of Burma may be linked up with that of China. A survey has, as you know, already been carried out as far as Tengyueh, whilst a railway reconnaissance has been made to Talifu. It would be a costly undertaking to reach that point, but it is not

*Address at Bhamo.*

impracticable, and I hope I am not too ambitious in looking forward to a future when, with the goodwill and co-operation of the Chinese Imperial Government, the line may connect not only Bhamo to Tengyueh, but eventually with Talifu and Yunanfu, to the immense advantage of the commercial interests and friendly relations of the populations on both sides of the frontier.

You have my hearty sympathy in the precautions you are taking against plague, and in your efforts to encourage sanitation, by which the general health of the community must so largely benefit, but I much regret to hear of the constant recurrence of the cattle disease which has been so disastrous in its effects; the matter is under the careful consideration of the Local Government, and no effort will be spared to devise some means of successfully combating it.

As to the educational difficulties you mention, it is of course open to the members of the Buddhist community in any district to establish a school in which their religion may be taught, and if that school conforms to the regulations of the Education Department it will receive financial aid from Government in accordance with the Grant-in-aid rules. In this respect such a school would be on a precisely similar footing to the American Baptist Mission School, to which you refer in your address. The suggestion that this school should be raised to the status of a High School is a matter for the consideration of the authorities of the American Baptist Mission Union by whom the school is maintained, but I have no doubt that any proposals to that effect which the managers of the school might find themselves in a position to put forward would be sympathetically considered by the Director of Public Instruction. I am informed that at present there is not sufficient demand for higher education in the Bhamo district to justify the Local Government in establishing a Government High School, but the Government of India will, I need not say, be anxious to recognize as far as possible all the local considerations involved.

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*Victoria Memorial Hall.*

I thank you again for the warmth of the reception extended to me by the people of Bhamo, and for your very kind expressions towards my family and the members of my Staff.

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VICTORIA MEMORIAL HALL.

[At the 18th meeting of the Trustees the questions of what was to be 31st Dec. 1907. done as regards the erection of the Hall on the site at present selected and of the proper housing of the exhibits loaned or presented to the Hall were discussed. His Excellency the Viceroy, in opening the proceedings, said :—]

I desire to offer a few remarks before dealing with the various items in the Agenda paper.

It will be observed that items Nos. 1—5 are of a more or less formal nature, and that items Nos. 6 and 7, which deal with Sir William Emerson's report and accompanying papers, and the question of the proper housing of the exhibits, are the crucial questions to be considered by the Trustees. On reaching these items I propose to ask Sir Herbert Risley to explain the position. Owing to the doubt which has arisen regarding the strength of the foundations, and the result of the investigations made to test this question, the Trustees find themselves in a very difficult position, and we shall have to carefully consider how to go on, and whether indeed we can go on, on the present site.

I for my own part sincerely hope that it will be found possible to carry out the design in which Lord Curzon has been so deeply interested, and the foundation-stone of which has been laid by the Prince of Wales, but I only received half an hour before this meeting the second report of the special Expert Committee, who had been asked to favour the Trustees with their views on Sir William Emerson's last report. This report is highly technical, and I think it will be impossible to consider it at this meeting but that another meeting should be held within a week,

*Victoria Memorial Hall.*

when the Trustees will have had time to consider it fully. The first report of the Expert Committee does not seem to me to be very decided in the views expressed therein, and I consider Lord Curzon to be perfectly justified in describing it as on the whole favourable to the present site.

Another question of great importance is that of the proper housing of the exhibits, and I believe that all the Trustees will agree with me in fully sympathizing with Lord Curzon in the disappointment expressed by him at the partial dispersal of the collection.

The Trustees have been put into a very difficult position by the action of the Museum Trustees, who demand that a large portion of the exhibition space should be given back to them at an early date. This action on their part has made it necessary to return at once some of the loan collections, and to find suitable housing space for other exhibits in buildings where they will be properly looked after.

I consider that the Museum is the only suitable place for the exhibition of the collection, and I trust that a way will now be found to provide sufficient space there, and to collect together again under one roof all those valuable and interesting objects which have necessarily but unfortunately been removed.

I have only one more matter to mention, and that is the great necessity of communicating to the Press the proceedings of the Trustees. The extremely difficult position resulting from the question of the strength of the foundations has rendered unavoidable great delay in continuing the actual building, and the public are entitled to know what steps the Trustees are taking to fulfil their duties. I know that no charge of dilatoriness or supineness can lie against the Trustees, and that everything possible had been done to deal with the difficulties which at once arose when it was known that the foundations showed signs of unequal

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*Countess of Dufferin Fund.*

subsidence. The public, however, are not aware of the steps that have been taken, and the reports that have been received; and it is not unnatural in these circumstances if the Trustees should be accused of unnecessary delay. I trust that further publicity will obviate any such feeling in the future.

[It was resolved at the subsequent meeting that, as Sir William Emerson had stated that he had succeeded in reducing the weight of the building as designed by him, within the limits of safety agreed to by the Engineers, the original design be adhered to, and the building be constructed on the existing foundations, with the modifications in these, proposed by the Engineers,—provided that on receipt of the drawings and the quantities showing the gross weights to be imposed per square foot on the different parts of the foundations which Sir William Emerson be invited to supply, the weights are found not to exceed the limits of safety.

The Museum authorities intimated that they had been able to find space for housing the collection.]

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COUNTESS OF DUFFERIN FUND.

[A largely attended special general meeting of the Countess of Dufferin's Fund was held at Government House on 14th Feb. 1908. In the Throne Room, His Excellency the Viceroy presiding. Lady Minto, Sir Andrew and Lady Fraser, and the speakers sat on the platform with His Excellency, and among the audience were Sir Louis Dane, Sir Harvey Adamson, General Scott, the Maharani of Kuch Behar, the Maharaj and Maharani of Burdwan, Mrs. Miller, Sir Herbert Risley, Mr. Butler, Surgeon-General Bomford, the Hon'ble Mr. Justices Harington, Fletcher and Geidt, Sir Charles Allen, Sir Ernest Cable, Rev. Canon Luckman, Sir Guru Dass Bannerjee, the Tikka Sahib of Nabha, Raja Peary Mohan Mookerjee, Sir Chandra Madhab Ghose, Rai Bahadur Sita Nath Roy, and many other leading native gentlemen.

The Viceroy's band played a suitable selection of music, and the meeting, which was excellently arranged, was over in about an hour.

The proceedings were opened by Mr. E. J. Buck, Joint Secretary of the Association, who read the report. Among those who spoke were the Hon'ble Mr. J. O. Miller, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mitter, the Hon'ble Sir Andrew Fraser and the Hon'ble Mr. G. M. Chitnavis.

*Countess of Dufferin Fund.*

His Excellency concluded the meeting with the following speech :—]

*Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—It is a great pleasure to me to be present to-day at the Annual Meeting of the Association which has laboured so devotedly in the interests of the women of India.

The Dufferin Fund is now approaching its 25th year of existence, and Lady Dufferin, its sympathetic foundress, may indeed be proud of the progress which has been made by the well-known Association which she founded in August 1885. Since that year Lady Dufferin, Lady Lansdowne, Lady Elgin, Lady Curzon (during whose seven years of office remarkable progress was attained), Lady Ampthill for a brief period and Lady Minto have all in turn held the office of Lady President of the Central Committee which has conducted the policy of the Association, and endeavoured to assist with the means in its possession the development of the work carried on by the Provincial and District Branches. Since Lady Minto has been in India, Her Excellency has, as you have heard from the Honorary Secretary, had the opportunity of visiting a very considerable number of the large centres engaged in furthering the objects of the Association. She is, I can assure you, very keenly interested in the good administration of hospitals, in which she has had no small experience, and I hope that when the summary is written of the progress which has been achieved during her term of office, it may be found to compare favourably with that of her predecessors.

I should like to take this opportunity of alluding to the loss which the Dufferin Fund and, indeed, the Province of Bengal, has sustained by the death of the late Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore. He was one of the original members of the Central Committee, and besides signing the Memorandum of Association whereby the Dufferin Fund was registered in 1885 under the Act XXI of 1860, he held at the time of his death the important office of a co-trustee of the Association's Fund. He was a valuable member of

*Countess of Dufferin Fund.*

the Committee, and he more than once contributed liberally to its hospital and other schemes.

There are many men who have risen to high offices who have been connected with the welfare of the Dufferin Fund. Among those who took a keen interest in its affairs as members of the Central Committee, in the early days of its existence, were Sir Andrew Scoble, Sir Charles Aitchison, Sir Antony MacDonnell, Sir Philip Hutchins, Sir Charles Lyall, the late Sir John Woodburn, the late Sir Syed Ahmad Khan of Aligarh, and the late Sir Dinshaw Maneckjee Petit. A valuable member of Committee, too, for many years and who for a short time acted as President of the Association, was the brilliant administrator who has just been obliged by ill-health to retire from the Punjab—Sir Denzil Ibbetson.

The Central Committee has certainly been fortunate in its Honorary Secretaries, for among the names of those who have rendered valuable assistance in this capacity, I find those of Colonel Harry Cooper, the first Secretary, Sir Walter Lawrence, Sir John Hewett, and Surgeon-General Sir Benjamin Franklin. To-day the Fund is most fortunate in possessing such an energetic Secretary as Colonel Crooke-Lawless, whilst Mr. Buck has ably filled the post of permanent Secretary to the Committee for nearly twenty years, and has spared no pains to promote its objects throughout India. The Provinces will easily recall the names of those whose labours on behalf of the women of India have been labours of love, and perhaps none more readily than those of Sir Auckland Colvin in the old North-West Provinces, Sir Charles and Lady Elliott in Bengal, Lady Harris and Lady Northcote in Bombay, and Lady Wenlock and Lady Ampthill in Madras. I find, too, when mentioning supporters of the Fund that the Ruling Chiefs of India have set aside buildings to the value of about thirteen lakhs of rupees for female hospitals, besides contributing large sums to the various schemes which have been started from time to time. I am extremely glad to see from the last map, tracing the



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*Countess of Dufferin Fund.*

progress of the Association, that there is now scarcely a State in India where the usefulness of the Dufferin Fund is not fully recognised and supported.

Including the value of all the buildings, either constructed by or presented to the Fund, about 40 lakhs of rupees may, I find, be taken as a fair valuation of the institutions now engaged in connection with its work.

I think the Association can fairly claim the cordial support of the public of this country, and of wealthy Indian Princes, Noblemen, and gentlemen in particular, if one takes a glance at the record of the work which has been accomplished up to the present. The main objects of this great charity as set forth in the Articles of Association are threefold—(1) medical tuition, (2) medical relief, and (3) the supply of trained female nurses and midwives.

Now the progress which has been made in these directions has been annually set forth in the reports which have been issued by the Central Committee, but I imagine that the fact which is most interesting to the public is the table showing the number of patients who have been relieved during the year.

Looking back to 1888, the first year for which any reliable return could be given, I find that 100,000 patients were treated during the year, and this total has gradually increased till it has practically reached two millions a year.

When the figures for 1907 are received and are included in the grand total of women and children that will have been assisted by the Dufferin Fund since its inception, that total may safely be taken at just under 25 millions.

So, following the example of my predecessors in office, I have no hesitation in urging all sections of the community of India to continue to support a scheme originated for the benefit of the wives and daughters of her people.

The Dufferin Fund has not existed for all these years without a certain amount of criticism, and as its sphere of operations has steadily extended so has the work increased

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*Countess of Dufferin Fund.*

which falls upon the Lady President and her advisers. I think that on the whole the public will admit that those duties have been conscientiously performed. The Honorary Solicitor to the Association, Mr. Kesteven, has recently advised the Committee that a revision was necessary in the original Articles of Association in order that the Branches of the Fund be legally given a somewhat wider discretion with reference to the investment of their funds, and the amendments which have been proposed by the Hon'ble Mr. Miller and seconded by Mr. Justice Mitter, and accepted by this meeting, will, I hope, prove the means of safely increasing in some small measure the present income of the Association and its Branches. Including the investments of the Central, Provincial, and District Branches, about thirty-five lakhs are now invested in various securities and trusts. Satisfactory as this sum may seem to be, it is by no means a large one when we consider that the income derived from it has to be devoted to the relief of well over a million women in this country.

I am glad to have had this opportunity not only of publicly expressing on behalf of Lady Minto and myself our keen sympathy in this great charitable organisation, but also of informing you that both Her Gracious Majesty Queen Alexandra and Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, who are respectively Patron and Vice-Patron of the Association, take the warmest interest in the welfare of the Fund. The Princess of Wales when in India visited a number of hospitals, and on several occasions discussed with Lady Minto plans and schemes for extending the relief now afforded by the Association.

Finally I must not forget that Her Excellency has particularly charged me to tender on behalf of herself and the Central Committee their warmest acknowledgments to all those who are so actively engaged in this great work. The Lady Presidents of the Provincial Branches, the Political and Medical Officers, the Honorary Secretaries of the various

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Branches, all render year by year invaluable aid which owing to the large number of those engaged in the work can only be acknowledged through the somewhat cold medium of the annual report. And last, though by no means least, comes the body of lady doctors and assistant surgeons and nurses on whom lies the main responsibility for success. Many of them of necessity lead isolated and laborious lives, and their work through the trying months of the hot weather often proves a heavy tax upon their health.

In conclusion, I should like to quote from an interesting article contributed by His Highness the Aga Khan to the "National Review" last year, in which, while discussing Indian conditions of to-day, he wrote :—"Of all the reforms carried out by successive Viceroys since 1877 probably none will appear to the historian of such real benefit to the people as the medical aid offered by what is known as the Lady Dufferin Fund."

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#### ORTHODOX HINDU DEPUTATION AND ADDRESS.

10th Mar. 1908. [A large and influential gathering of orthodox Hindu gentry, representing the Sri-Bharata-Dharma-Mahamandala, assembled in the Throne Room of Government House last evening, and were received in Deputation by His Excellency the Viceroy.

The deputation formed themselves into rows, two on each side, leaving a passage in the centre, up which His Excellency on arrival passed, preceded by his A.-D.-Cs. The Maharaja of Darbhanga, as leader of the Deputation, then presented each member of the assembly to His Excellency.

When His Excellency had taken his seat, the Maharaja read the following address to His Excellency, illustrating the object of the deputation :—

"*May it please Your Excellency,*—We the undersigned representatives of the Sri-Bharata-Dharma-Mahamandala beg leave most respectfully to submit to you this humble address on behalf of the Association, and to express the hope that Your Excellency will take it into your favourable consideration.

*Orthodox Hindu Deputation and Address.*

Our institution, as Your Excellency is aware, is an entirely non-political organisation, and has for its object the deepening of the religious life of all orthodox Hindus throughout the whole of India, knowing full well that the true religious spirit is the spring from which all other good things will flow for the advancement and upbuilding of national character. The orthodox Hindus throughout India are loyal by nature. Loyalty to the Throne and to social order is ordained in our Shastras and forms a part of the mental and spiritual outfit we receive in youth. And we take this opportunity of emphasising our loyalty to the British Government and to express our thankfulness for the entire religious liberty we enjoy under its beneficent rule. We are profoundly thankful for the great interest the Government are taking in the education of the people, but it is our conviction that unless all education is permeated with the religious spirit it will fall short of the ideal which is the goal we aim at in all our work. It may interest Your Excellency to know that our institution and its different branches in the country are establishing schools for imparting religious along with secular education, send forth qualified religious preachers to all parts of India to teach and instruct the people in the principles of our faith and to distribute amongst them our religious literature. More than one hundred and fifty such preachers are at work, doing splendid service, and wherever they go they establish branches which, in turn, become local centres for living work. The restoration of the ancient seats of Sanskrit learning, the preservation, control and better management of existing Hindu religious endowments, charitable institutions, sacred places shrines, etc., also form part of the work of our Association, and we are prepared, according to our means, to provide inspectors for these institutions and also to publish books and pamphlets on the subject. Our work also embraces the collection and preservation of old manuscripts and Sanskrit books, and of preparing a complete and systematic bibliography of Sanskrit literature, as well as the printing and publishing of monthly journals, religious tracts, and authoritative books on Hindu Science and Philosophy. Our membership embraces within its sweep all orders of Orthodox Hindus, Ruling Chiefs, heads of different religious schools, prominent members of the aristocracy, the leaders of our communities, and distinguished Sanskrit scholars. We have also special members who help in the work, and the ordinary membership consists of Hindus of both sexes who sign a declaration promising support to the Hindu religion and making small contributions towards the Mahamandala. Your Excellency will see from the general tenor of the foregoing representation

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that all our purposes, as our name implies, are of the purely religious order. Our aim is a high one, being nothing less than the uplifting of the whole people into a compact and homogeneous nation by systematic education along right lines, the whole being infused and penetrated by a truly living religious spirit, leading to that exaltation of national character without which all our efforts will be in vain. Amidst numerous diversities of outward expression we recognise that the spirit of religion is the one great unifying power which makes a people one in heart in loyalty to God and to the Government ordained by God; one in human brotherhood and love, the strong helping the weak, and all working together in the paths of peace and for the continuous development of national life and prosperity. We have excluded from our purview on this occasion all references to anything of a political order as affecting our community, as we have the most perfect confidence in the well-known purpose of Your Excellency, to hold the balance even in regard to all the various sections and creeds in India, and we are firmly convinced that in any of the reforms which are now or hereafter to be brought about in the general administration of the Indian Empire, the Hindu people of India will receive their due share, warranted by their number, their intellectual culture, business ability, loyalty, and by their power on the side of peace and order in the land. We come before Your Excellency to-day simply as representing a purely religious organisation whose objects we have briefly put before you. And we have done so in the confident hope that we have won the sympathy of Your Excellency with our purposes and aims and that nothing will be wanting within your power to help us in our efforts to guide the awakening life of the Hindus throughout India, by means of a spiritual religious education until they form a truly compact and noble religious nation—a loyal and peaceful and prosperous people.”

We have the honour to be, and to subscribe ourselves, Your Excellency's Most Obedient and Humble Servants.

[Here followed the signatures of the members of the deputation as under, most of them being present :—

Maharaja Sir Rameshwara Sing Bahadur of Darbhanga, General President, Sri Bharat Dharma Mahamandala, Representative of Jagat-Guru Sri Sankaracharya of Sringeri Math (Madras), Representative of Jagat-Guru Sri Sankaracharya of Govardhan Math (Puri), Representative of Sri Goswamija Maharaj Tikait of Nathdwara, Representative of the Mahant of Gaya, Representative of Kishangarh State (Maharaj Raghunath Singh, uncle of His Highness), Representative of Sailana State (Maharaja Chhatra Singh, brother of His

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Highness), Representative of Rewah State (Thakur Jutan Singh), Representative of Jammu and Kashmir State, Representative of Orchha State, Representative of Alwar State, Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Chitra Dhar Misra of Mithila, Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Shiva Kumar Shastri of Benares, Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Raja-Krishna Tarkapanchanana, Nuddea, Rao Sahib Gopal Singh, Thakur Sahib of Kharwa (Rajputana), Raja Balwant Singh, C.I.E., of Avagarh (United Provinces), President, Kshattri Mahasabha, the Maharaja of Cossimbazar, Pandit Shearam Sarvabhum of Bhatpara, Pandit Ramcharan Kavaya Smrititirtha, Thakor Dhyana Pal Singh, Babu Sashi Bhusan Bhattacharjee, Raja Peary Mohan Mukerjee, C.S.I., Uttarpur (Bengal), Raja Baikunta Nath De Bahadur, of Balasore, the Hon'ble Munshi Madho Lal, of Benares, the Hon'ble Mr. G. N. Chitnavis, of Nagpur, Babu Lakshman Prashad, of Madhuban, Rai Ramsarandas, of Lahore, Rai Bahadur Radha Kishen, Rais, Patna, Rai Bahadur Lala Hari Chand of Multan, Rai Bahadur Sirdar Buta Singh of Rawalpindi, Mr. P. Ry. Nagalingam Moodaliar of Madras, Babu Ram Parshad Chaudhuri, of Benares, Sri Ramchandra Naik Kalaji, of Benares, Munshi Prag Narain, proprietor, "Nawal Kishore Press," Lucknow, Pandit Govind Sahaya, proprietor, "Akhbar-i-Am," Lahore, Rai Hari Ram Goenka, Bahadur (Calcutta), Rai Rai Shivparshad Jhoonjoonwala Bahadur (Calcutta), Seth Gulab Rai Poddar (Calcutta), Kumar Kshitendra Deb Rai Mahasaya, of Bansberia Raj, Chaudhuri Ram Gopal Singh (Chief, Bhumihaar Brahman Sabha), and Rai Bahadur Pandit Maharaj Narain Shivpuri, General Secretary.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Maharaja and Gentlemen*,—I thank you for the address which you have presented to me on behalf of your Association, and I am glad to have this opportunity of welcoming to Government House so distinguished a Deputation empowered to speak for your great Hindu rulers and territorial magnates and for your leaders in religious learning. I appreciate the earnestness of purpose which has united in a common cause the representatives of orthodox Hindu thought throughout India.

I am aware that your institution is a non-political organisation—that its aims are religious—and you maintain, and I fully agree with you, that it is from religious foundations that the national character of a people derives its strength and its power of further development. You seek

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to deepen and to nourish the springs of religious life, and your object is a noble one.

The words in which you explain to me that in your loyalty to the British Government you are fulfilling the tenets of your faith have deeply impressed me. We have passed through troublous times. It is no use disguising the fact. Yet in the face of many difficulties and complicated surroundings the British Government has had good reason to recognise the loyal support of the orthodox Hindu community whom you represent. Loyalty is, I know, the teaching of your Shastras. In a little Hindu text-book which was lately shown to me I find it laid down that "Reverence to the Sovereign, the head of the State, comes naturally after reverence to God, the representative of whose power, justice and protection he is on earth, if he be a true King, intent on the welfare of his subjects"—and here our respective religions meet on common ground, for the Christian scriptures tell us, too, to "Fear God" and "Honour the King."

Loyalty to the Throne and respect for social order are, I understand, the basis of the work your Association has undertaken. It has already done much for the instruction of the people by spreading its branches throughout the country, by supplying teachers, by the publication of Sanskrit literature, and by the preservation of old manuscripts and venerable books—and the mainspring of its energy is religion.

I am in entire accord with you in recognising that it is to the early inculcation of a loyal, honest, and self-sacrificing religious spirit that we must look for the successful upbringing of coming generations.

Education is the greatest problem we have to face in India to-day. Upon its solution the future of this country largely depends. The dangers of educational maladministration, and of the misappropriation of educational advantages, stare us in the face. It would seem that, as in

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many other things in India, we have reached the parting of the ways. Is the intellectual current to flow for good or for evil? It is an enormous and ever-increasing power. For the sake of India, for the sake of your sons and daughters, we must strive to direct it. We see around us a burning thirst for knowledge. How can we most wholesomely minister to it? I think, if I may say so, the answer to the problem rests largely with yourselves and with Associations such as yours.

You must remember, and it is all-important that you should do so, that as far as the Government of India is concerned all State-aided education in this country must be secular. That is an axiom we must accept. In the Indian Empire there are many religious creeds, and no British Government can too scrupulously observe its religious neutrality—but what I say to you I say to all creeds and to all sects—that it has been and ever will be the pride of the British Raj to hold the balance evenly between them, to recognise the honesty of individual beliefs, to respect their sanctity, and to safeguard the representation of their interests in the administration of the Empire.

But though I maintain that neutrality in religious questions must always remain an axiom of British administration, I hope I have said enough to you to indicate my hearty sympathy in the efforts of your Association, and that, without transgressing the principle I have enunciated, I may perhaps venture to draw your attention to the evident and rapid growth during the last twenty years of new factor in educational life possessing, it seems to me, great possibilities in the direction you have so earnestly advocated in your address—I mean the hostel system.

You are no doubt acquainted with the report of Sir W. Hunter's Education Commission in 1883. You will find there that the residence of students in college buildings was little known, and that, though boarding houses were attached to some institutions and were on the increase,



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difficulties were foreseen as to any general adoption of a residential system. Nevertheless its success has since become assured, and a Home Department Resolution of 1904 tells us that the returns from the year 1901-1902 showed that there were 1,415 hostels with 47,302 boarders, connected with colleges and schools which were very largely supported from sources independent of Government, 10 lakhs being derived from subscriptions and endowments as against Rs. 2,63,000 from public funds, whilst the subject is further discussed in connection with religious teaching in a Home Department letter of August 10, 1906, to the Government of Bengal. I commend these papers to the consideration of your Association. They seem to me to suggest future facilities for special religious instruction, and accepting as I do the principles of your address, I say frankly that I see immeasurable good to be gained by giving the people of India opportunities for an early grounding in the teaching of their own religious faiths. Personally, I see no impossibility in denominational hostels—provided always that the Government of India is in no way implicated in their religious control or administration. If any difficulty exists on that point, I cannot think it is insuperable.

But, Gentlemen, heartily sharing as I do in your hopes of uplifting the religious spirit of your fellow countrymen, may I ask of you something more? Might it not be possible for your Association to exert its influence somewhat outside the confines of educational machinery? It is in the child's home that the first seeds of education are sown. Can you do something to assist parental authority? I believe that, with the sympathetic feeling which marks the whole tone of your address, you may have it in your power to do much to obtain a hold over parents in their homes, and to insist on their instilling into their children those principles of religion and loyalty to Government which your Association has at heart. Remember the effect

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of example upon young minds, not only the example of parents, but of those religious teachers in whose selection you must have so much to say and upon whose purity of life and honesty of purpose the character of their pupils should be so largely moulded.

Maharaja and Gentlemen, I assure you of my complete sympathy with the aims of your Association, and I would gladly welcome any opportunity of furthering them.

CONVOCAION OF THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

[The Jubilee Convocation of the University of Calcutta for conferring degrees was held on Saturday afternoon at the Senate House, College Square, which was very tastefully decorated for the occasion. Long before the appointed hour, the seats were occupied by both European and Indian ladies and gentlemen, every one anxiously expecting the arrival of His Excellency the Chancellor, which was timed at 2-45 P.M. His Excellency, however, was a little late and arrived at the Senate House at 3-10 P.M. The proceedings commenced with the reading of the three congratulatory addresses from other Universities, one of which was in Sanskrit. The Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor in reply accorded them a hearty vote of thanks. The bestowal of the honorary degrees then took place, every one of the recipients of the degree being present, except Sir S. S. Aiyar and Shams-ul-Ulama S. A. Bilgrami. Much excitement was caused when Sir G. D. Banerjee, Dr. P. C. Roy and Rev. Father E. Lafont were presented to the Chancellor by the Hon'ble Dr. Mookerjee, and for nearly five minutes, on each occasion, there were continuous shouts of cheering. When, however, Sir H. H. Risley received the diploma from the Chancellor, loud hissing was heard from the eastern side of the hall, but the fellows of the University clapped loudly and immediately the hissing melted away. Ordinary degrees were then granted. There were 97 M.As.; 427 B.As.; 9 B.Sc.s.; 244 B.L.s.; 1 M.D.; 4 M.B.s.; 62 L.M.S.s.; 11 B.E.s.; 1 Prem Chand Roy Chand student; 2 Tagore Medalists and 2 Ph.D.s. There were three lady graduates, two of whom were presented to His Excellency amidst loud and continuous cheers.

His Excellency the Viceroy made the following speech :—]

*Mr. Vice-Chancellor and Members of this Convocation*,—This is the third Convocation over which I have

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had the honour to preside since I succeeded to the office of Chancellor. But to-day's assemblage is exceptional in that this year the University has attained to its 50th anniversary—and I must congratulate you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, and the University authorities and graduates on their first Jubilee.

It is a memorable day in the history of the University. I only wish that your Chancellor could have discovered a few leisure hours to better qualify himself to address the Convocation on this auspicious occasion, for the past 50 years have been very full of incident—full of material for study of the growth and the results of education, and for careful consideration of its future problems.

It is curious to look back, from our present educational standpoint, to the early days of the East India Company. For many years after they had taken over the administration of the territories they had acquired, no attempt was made to inaugurate any regular system of education. Their policy was to leave the scattered and widely different indigenous systems such as they were to themselves, undisturbed and unsupported by grants from Government, and together with this disregard for the teaching of the people over whom they had commenced to rule, there would appear to have been a marked decline, amongst the Indian population itself, in the cultivation of literature and science.

My ancestor, Lord Minto, refers to this decline in a very interesting educational Minute of March 6th, 1811. He says—"It is a common remark that science and literature are in a progressive state of decay among the natives of India. \* \* \* The number of the learned is not only diminished, but the circle of learning, even amongst those who still devote themselves to it, appears to be considerably contracted. \* \* \* The immediate consequence of this state of things is the disuse, and even actual loss, of many valuable books; and it is to be

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apprehended that, unless Government interposes with a fostering hand, the revival of letters may become hopeless, from a want of books or of persons capable of explaining them. The principal cause of the present neglected state of literature in India is to be traced to the want of that encouragement which was formerly afforded to it by Princes, Chieftains, and opulent individuals under the Native Governments," and he goes on to tell how a liberal patronage "was formerly bestowed, not only by Princes and others in power and authority, but also by the zemindars, on persons who had distinguished themselves by the successful cultivation of letters."

But, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, we have with us to-day a distinguished Indian gentleman who has nobly followed the example of the great men of 100 years ago. The munificent gift of the Maharaja of Darbhanga to the University Library will earn for him the lasting gratitude of the Indian literary world, and I feel sure that I shall meet with warm approval in exercising my power as Chancellor and nominating him an Honorary Fellow for life, as an eminent benefactor of the University.

But to return to early days. Perhaps it was only natural that during the hard-fought wars of the Company there should have been little time to spare for the care of the arts and sciences, whilst the great Eastern potentates who had done so much to patronise them were themselves struggling for existence. However that may be, it was for Warren Hastings first to recognise the responsibility of the Government, and in 1782 he founded the Calcutta Madrassa for Mahomedans. Nine years later came the Hindu College at Benares, and it was not till the Charter Act of 1813—one of the results of Lord Minto's Minute which I have quoted—that powers were granted to provide systematically from public funds for the furtherance of education, and such annual grants were at first confined to the encouragement of Oriental methods of

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nstruction, till in 1835 Lord Macaulay wrote that historical minute which went far to introduce Western education into India. Then followed a period of somewhat ill-defined attempts to extend English education, in which self-denying missionary effort played its full part till we reach the next important landmark, the despatch of 1854, from the Court of Directors, which prescribed, among other measures necessary for a more extended and systematic promotion of general education in India, the foundation of Universities at the three Presidency towns. The Calcutta University was incorporated in 1857, and commenced operations with about 50 schools for the Entrance Examination and 13 affiliated institutions for the B.A. Examination. It was modelled on the University of London. Except that, inasmuch as that institution was then a purely examining body, the Calcutta University has always included a far greater sphere of influence in the control of the colleges and schools affiliated to it, and Lord Canning, in the midst of the tremendous responsibilities which everywhere surrounded him, became its first Chancellor. Fifty years have passed by since then, and to-day an Indian gentleman, a distinguished scholar and jurist, brings to bear on the conduct of its affairs a patriotic zeal for the promotion of higher education among his fellow-countrymen which is only equalled by his experience and administrative ability. I congratulate the University on its possession of Dr. Mookerjee as its Vice-Chancellor—a worthy successor of other eminent Judges of the High Court who have before him filled the Vice-Chancellor's Chair. But I would impress upon you that he has assumed the reins of office at a turning point in the history of the University, for with its Jubilee the University enters not only on a new chronological era, but on a new régime under new administrative conditions, the Incorporation Act of 1857 having, as you know, been amended by the University Act of 1904. There may have

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been doubts as to the character of the new régime and the suitability of the new conditions to the wants of the country and of the educated community, but I know of no pilot more capable of steering the ship of learning through educational shoals and quicksands than Dr. Mookerjee, and I have no need to prophesy as to the future. Yet of this we may rest assured, we have embarked upon what has been very aptly called "The New Ideal" in University education in India—possibilities are in the air which have not yet been moulded into shape—early conceptions of the aims of University education are giving way to the hopes of educational influence over social life—a thirst for practical knowledge, and for the wholesome enjoyment of the advantages offered by residential colleges, is beginning to dim the momentary glories of successful examinations. I believe that on the proper development of affiliated residential institutions the power of this University to confer lasting benefits upon the people of India will largely depend. How that development can be furthered is one of the problems with which we have to deal, but in one direction it would appear to me to afford exceptional opportunities,—for the encouragement of religious training,—for though the Government of India must, as I have recently said, hold the balance evenly between all religions and sects, I cannot but feel that a system of education which aims at the training of youth with no regard for religious truths ignores the very foundation upon which all that is noble in a people should be built.

The entire absence of religious teaching is a defect in our system of education—and yet it is a defect with which the absolutely necessary religious neutrality of British administration renders it impossible for the Government of India to deal. Before the advent of Western learning secular and religious instruction went hand in hand. The teacher was also the spiritual guide, and we cannot disguise from ourselves that a system for which we are answerable has

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to a large extent deprived the student of instruction in his own faith. It would be useless now to speculate as to what proportion of the causes for any untoward results may be allotted to the system, or to the want of religious teachers, or to the students themselves, but I would ask the latter to assist as far as is in their power to neutralize the evil. They and the University authorities can justly look to the religious associations throughout India for assistance. I have been a University student myself, and I know full well how the surroundings of university life go to form a young man's character and to assist in his future career. One is apt to think of such things perhaps too late, after we have bid farewell to our Alma Mater when opportunities have been lost that can never be recovered, and I would ask you, young men of the Calcutta University, to enquire of yourselves at this period of your lives, what this education has done for you, and to think how you can best utilize it. Do not let the knowledge it has given you lead you astray. It will have opened to you fresh hopes, and glittering possibilities for the future, but should all the more deepen your sense of duty and responsibility. You have come to manhood at a period of great educational advancement throughout India, and at a time too when through a certain backwardness in the development of indigenous industries, there is not sufficient employment for the ever-increasing educated class who seek for it. At present too I know that high prices and increased expenditure in living are pressing hard on the "Bhadralok" of Bengal, who may naturally feel that what they have spent in education is after all yielding them but a poor return, and I fully sympathise with them in their difficulties. But yet I hope that, with each succeeding year, the growth of home industries, and the consequent demand for greater technical knowledge, together with the restoration of Indian art and letters, will throw open fields of employment, which now scarcely exist, for those who need never think they

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have wasted their time in a University education. In furtherance of my hope, I have great pleasure, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, in announcing that the Government of India will give an annual grant of Rs. 10,000 towards the establishment of a Chair of economic science. Education must move with the times, and I trust that this new Professorship will put within reach of the students of this University opportunities for obtaining that practical instruction which commercial enterprise and universal competition will more and more require. The past history of the University augurs well for the success of the invaluable work it has before it.

INDIAN FAMINE CHARITABLE RELIEF FUND.

[The meeting convened by the Sheriff of Calcutta for the relief of 17th Mar. 1908. those in the famine-stricken districts was held at the Town Hall on the 17th March. H. E. the Viceroy presided, and there was a large attendance of influential citizens of Calcutta, including the Judges of the High Court, H. E. Lord Kitchener, Sir Andrew Fraser, the Maharajas of Burdwan, Darbhanga, Cossimbazar and Murshidabad, the Hon'ble Mr. A. A. Apcar, the Lord Bishop, Archbishop Brice Meuleman and others. On the arrival of the Viceroy, Mr. G. H. Sutherland, as Sheriff, in declaring the meeting open, stated that it was just eight years since a meeting was held in the same hall for the same melancholy and charitable purpose. The famine of 1908 was not so widespread as that of 1900, yet the severity with which it had struck the United Provinces appeared terrible enough to justify the steps they were about to take in this part of India.]

Maharaja Sir Prodyot Coomar Tagore then proposed and Mr. W. Smith seconded the proposal that H. E. the Viceroy do occupy the Chair.

His Excellency in explaining the objects of the meeting said:—]

*Mr. Sheriff, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I venture to think that before I address you as to the object of to-day's meeting I should explain to you the circumstances under which I have gladly consented to preside.

I need scarcely tell you that ever since the premature stoppage of the monsoon last autumn the Government of



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India and the Local Governments have been occupied in anxiously watching the agricultural situation as it developed week by week and in making ready for the worst that could possibly occur. But I am not here to-day as representing the Government of India, I have merely consented to preside in response to an invitation conveyed to me by the Sheriff on behalf of the citizens of the metropolis at a meeting for the organization of a Charitable Relief Fund. The non-official public, prompted by its own generous impulses, has come forward of its own accord to show a practical sympathy for the suffering in the affected tracts. In that sympathy I very fully share, and it is in the hopes of furthering the general wish of the Calcutta community that I have welcomed their invitation to take the chair.

The general position is at present as follows: The famine area comprises practically the whole of the United Provinces, some of the protected States in Central India and parts of the Punjab, Bengal, the Central Provinces and even Bombay. It covers approximately 150,000 square miles, somewhat more than Great Britain, Ireland, Holland and Belgium combined, with a population of roughly 50 millions. In other words, over one-twelfth of the area of India and one-sixth of its population are affected. And though I have been told that some exception has been taken to raising a general fund for all India on the present occasion, on the ground that this is merely a United Provinces famine, it is really much more than that, though the depth and extent of the distress in the United Provinces compared with that under the other Local Administrations has naturally focussed public attention on that one particular part of India. But even supposing we had only a United Provinces famine to deal with, the needs of that province are far too great to be met by local charity, and it would appear to me only right that residents in other parts of India should be given an opportunity

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of assisting their less fortunate fellow-subjects of the King-Emperor.

It is unnecessary to go into any great detail as to the character of the famine, but a few statistics may assist to explain the situation to the meeting. Over the whole affected area the loss of crops has been very great. In one division of the Punjab, for instance, the outturn of the autumn harvest was less than one-sixth of the normal, and it is calculated that this means an actual loss of 200 lakhs (£1,383,000). For the whole of the United Provinces the autumn harvest was less than two-fifths of the normal, and the failure is of course considerably greater in the famine-stricken areas. The loss on rice and maize, alone—two great food crops—is estimated at 15 crores (ten million pounds). According to the latest returns there are 1,410,181 persons in receipt of relief, namely, 1,261,509 in British India and 148,672 in the protected States. And though in January our hopes were raised by the excellent and widespread rain which fell over northern and upper India, when there seemed indeed some probability that the sowings for the spring harvest would be more extensive than the original forecast made out, since then unfortunately no more rain has fallen, and we are receiving gloomy accounts of prospects of the next harvest, especially in the Punjab. Should no rain fall within the next few days the situation will be seriously aggravated, and whatever happens there will necessarily be a long interval before the distress in districts dependent mainly on autumn cereals comes to an end. These figures give some idea of the situation which the people and the Government have to face. In the meantime, recognising as we must the existence of much unavoidable misery, it is reassuring to know that the experience gained in previous famines and the development of remedial measures steadily carried on under the direction of my two distinguished predecessors Lord Elgin and Lord Curzon have placed the Government

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of India in a far better position to cope with widespread distress than they have ever been before, whilst the unprecedented liberal issue of agricultural advances and arrangements made for prompt suspensions of revenue have been a distinguishing feature of the administration of this famine and have put much heart into the people, who in their turn are facing the position with remarkable courage and determination. The conduct of the campaign by Sir John Hewett and his officers has been thoroughly practical and humane, and they deserve all praise.

It is quite true that the present famine cannot be compared to the last two great famines either in respect to its extent or severity. But it has one distinguishing feature in which it markedly differs from its predecessors, and to which I should wish to draw the attention of the meeting. That feature is the very high range of the prices of food grain. They are much higher than the great famine of 1900 and distinctly higher than in 1897. And though the labouring and artizan classes have to some extent been saved from distress by the gradual increased demand for labour in the last few years, and though cultivators in the fortunate position of having a surplus to sell have benefited by the rise in prices, there is on the other hand an actually larger number than in former years of respectable poor people whom custom and tradition forbid to apply for Government relief to whom these prohibitive prices mean the most terrible distress and suffering. To-day's meeting would appear to me, Mr. Sheriff, to give ample evidence of the quickness with which the citizens of Calcutta have appreciated the economic position.

Since I accepted the invitation to preside I have received communications from the different Local Governments expressing their sympathy with the movement and promising their co-operation, and I am much honoured in having been authorized to announce to the meeting that the King-Emperor has consented to be Patron of the Fund.

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His Majesty's gracious act is, I feel, all that is needed to unite every class and every creed in support of the objects for which this meeting is called.

It is all-important that we should succeed in those objects. It is by charity alone that we can hope to relieve much of the existing distress. I know it is possible to argue, I believe it has been asserted, that if Government admit their responsibility for saving life and for keeping together the bodies and souls of the suffering people until brighter times come round there is no necessity to draw on private benevolence for assistance. I am afraid I cannot agree. In spending the money of the Indian taxpayer on famine relief, Government must in justice to that taxpayer act on certain fundamental principles and in accordance with certain accepted rules. They must recognise that State aid, if it is to be properly administered, must be first asked for and then with reasonable exceptions be given only in return for such amount of work as the physical condition of the applicant admits. Such limitations are imperative in any expenditure of public money, and in its self-appointed task of saving life the State must be strictly bound by them. But this restriction of the functions of Government leaves a very large margin of misery and suffering untouched. There is no Poor Law in India, and perhaps some of the wonderful endurance and resignation shown by the people of this country under a great calamity may be due to that fact. In ordinary circumstances India depends for the relief of the indigent and needy entirely on caste institutions and spontaneous private charity. But in a famine this automatic system must break down as the charitably inclined find their own resources reduced whilst the field for the exercise of benevolence is enormously widened. It is in recognition of such principles and facts that this meeting has been called to invoke the charity of the public.

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Already private charity relief agencies are at work in different parts of India. They are, I know, doing good work, and those in charge of them are freely devoting their time and labour to the interests of their distressed fellow-countrymen. There have, too, been examples of princely generosity, such as the grants already made to United Provinces and Central India from the Famine Endowment Fund of the Maharaja of Jaipur, whilst many Indian landlords, notably the Maharaja of Balrampur, are providing for famine relief in their own estates with admirable care and completeness.

But separate efforts, no matter how munificent, are after all limited, and the time has come for the general public to occupy the larger field open to charity and to undertake the organization necessary to ensure that public benevolence should be a fellow-worker with the State. In this view I would outline the objects on which charitable funds will be spent. The administration proposed is based on that of the famine of 1897:—

*Firstly*,—In supplementing the subsistence ration which is alone provided from public funds by the addition of small comforts whether of food or of clothing for the aged or the infirm, for patients in hospital, for children, and the like;

*Secondly*,—In providing for the maintenance of orphans;

*Thirdly*,—In relieving the numerous poor but respectable persons who will endure almost any privation rather than apply for Government help, the relief of such cases of destitution to be officially enquired into;

*Fourthly*,—In restoring to their original position, when acute distress is subsiding, those who have lost their all in their struggle for existence, and in giving them a fresh start in life. Expenditure from charitable funds upon such objects will, it is to be hoped, both supplement and aid at each critical stage of the famine what the Government can do for the relief of distress. It will cheer the hearts of workers in the relief camps by supplementing and varying

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the monotonous ration and will give them strength to endure. It will assist thousands of destitute widows and orphans and women and children unable to accompany their husbands and fathers in search of relief. It will give a new chance of life to very many suffering from diseases incidental to famine who would rather die than go to a public hospital, and whose recovery depends not so much on medical treatment as on diet. It will enable thousands of families whose livestock has disappeared and whose grain stores are depleted at the end of the famine, to make a fresh start with cattle and agricultural implements and will save them from lapsing into poverty.

And, Ladies and Gentlemen, the operations of this charitable fund will not be confined to British India, but the subjects of such protected States as are affected will freely share in its benefits. I am glad to say that the Durbars have shown the utmost determination to bring their administrations into line with the high standard we have set up in British India, and that when famine has visited a State and the revenue has been seriously curtailed and expenditure enormously increased and there has been no surplus available to the Durbar, Chiefs have nevertheless risen to their responsibilities in a way that deserves the highest encouragement and support.

I hope the meeting will clearly understand that charitable funds will not relieve Government of one iota of their responsibility or enable them to relax their efforts in the slightest degree. A committee has already been formed for the administration of the fund, over which I have been most fortunate in persuading the Chief Justice to preside, as he has done on two similar occasions in past years, and to give the subscribers the benefit of his great experience and capacity in these matters. And, Ladies and Gentlemen, I earnestly trust that the results of our meeting to-day may be productive of much good in the districts which are so sorely afflicted.

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The following Resolutions were then proposed and carried :—

RESOLUTION I.

MAHARAJA OF DARBHANGA.

The Hon'ble the Maharaja of Darbhanga moved the following resolution :—

“That this meeting recognises the fact that the time has come when a Charitable Fund should be formed for the relief of distress in the famine-stricken districts of India, such relief being supplementary of the operations of Government, and designed to meet cases not clearly or adequately covered by those operations, and that to this end subscriptions should be invited from the well-to-do throughout this country, and contributions from abroad be thankfully received.”

He said :—“I feel assured that your presence here this afternoon in such numbers is itself an enthusiastic response to the appeal which has been made to our common humanity on behalf of our distressed and suffering brothers and sisters in the famine-stricken districts of our land, and an unmistakable proof that you have already taken to heart and embraced the terms of my resolution and have made them your own. The Government are already engaged in doing their duty, and are doing it well, to the starving multitudes, within the limits which circumscribe their operations. But while the meting out of rations sufficient to keep starving people from dying of hunger is a great work in itself, it is not enough. And therefore we feel ourselves bound by all the ties of common brotherhood, to step in, and co-operate with the Government, by filling up, in no ungenerous and stinted fashion, that quality of service which is required not only to stave off death but to comfort those poor people while the famine lasts, and when it abates to help to put them on their feet again. This is the purpose for which the fund is now to be started, and I know the appeal will not be made in vain, for the rich and the well-to-do and even the poor in their poverty, will all vie with each other in helping on this noble work.”

The Maharaja then referred to the latest returns from the famine-stricken districts and said :—“The famine area extends over 150,000 square miles. Provision also will have to be made for those who have lost their guardians and supporters until they are of age to support themselves. The peasant cultivator who has lost his all in the struggle for existence will have to be helped to get a fresh start in life, while the numerous poor but respectable persons who will endure almost any privation rather than apply for public relief will have to be sought out and treated with the most delicate consideration and care.”

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THE HON'BLE MR. APCAR.

The Hon'ble Mr. Apar said :—" I have the honour to second the resolution which has been proposed by the Maharaja of Darbhanga. From the facts which have been laid before us by His Excellency the Viceroy it is clear that it was necessary to call this meeting to give relief to the distressed people in the famine districts of India. It is true the present famine is fortunately not so severe as those of 1897 and 1900, but the numbers on relief works are sufficient to cause not only the Government, but all sympathetic people, anxiety. The Government of India has the difficult task of keeping alive the poorest of the population, and it is for us to organise relief to those whom the Government cannot reach and who by reason of the conditions prevailing in this country are reluctant to appeal for help. It is for them an appeal is made to those who are in a position to afford it. We meet here to-day of all races, of all religions and of all professions in the cause of charity, and I am confident that the call on us will be generously met for the needs of our fellow-subjects. On previous occasions other countries responded nobly to the appeal for help. When the object of this meeting is telegraphed to all parts of the British Empire, I feel sure that the call of the distressed people of India will not be made in vain. With these remarks I beg to second the motion."

SIR ANDREW FRASER.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, in seconding the resolution, said :—

" *Your Excellency and Gentlemen*,—I rise to support the resolution which has been proposed and seconded by my hon'ble friends Maharaja Sir Rameswar Singh Bahadur and Mr. Apar. I shall not detain you with many observations. The objects of the meeting have been already explained by Your Excellency ; and the second resolution deals especially with the objects to which the fund which we are here to establish is to be devoted. The number of speakers at this meeting is large ; and the speeches must therefore be short.

" There are two points on which I should like to say a few words. The first is that, while we are thankful in Bengal that prospects have greatly improved, we realise the obligation of helping others. We suffer in common with the rest of India from abnormally high prices which have long prevailed ; but real famine conditions will, we trust, be limited in this province to comparatively small areas. We may ourselves require some assistance from this fund ; for we are in some parts already inviting and receiving the co-operation of private liberality ; but we trust that the assistance we shall require will be



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small. In the past, however, Bengal has been assisted in times of distress by other parts of India; and it is meet that she should now render assistance to others who are in trouble.

"The second point which I desire to notice is this, that under present conditions there will be specially severe suffering amongst the lower middle classes. High prices have to a very large extent benefited the agricultural classes; and the demand for labour is so great that the labouring classes suffer less than is usually the case in times of famine. This at all events is undoubtedly our present experience within the limited famine areas in Bengal. On the other hand, owing to the abnormally high prices which prevail, the scarcity, where it exists, has affected the lower middle classes more severely than usual. Now it is these classes whom it is the main object of this fund to assist. They must look largely to this fund for the only relief they can accept. And, therefore, although this famine may be very much less severe than other famines with which some of us have had to deal, yet we must with all earnestness commend this fund to the liberality of those who can afford to assist their fellow-men in their distress. With these few remarks I support this resolution."

The Hon'ble Munshi Madho Lal, the Maharaja of Cossimbazar and Prince Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah supported the resolution, which was put to the vote and carried unanimously.

## RESOLUTION II.

## NAWAB OF MURSHIDABAD.

The Hon'ble the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad moved the following resolution :—

"That this meeting accepts the statement of the objects to which private subscriptions may be legitimately devoted as set forth by the Government in the *Gazette of India* of the 9th January, 1897, and the organisation there suggested for the collection and administration of subscriptions to the Fund; and resolves that a General Committee be appointed, with power to add to their number, and to appoint an Executive Committee to administer the Fund."

He said :— "The harrowing tales of sorrow and distress which have been reaching us from the upper provinces have found an echo in distant Bengal, and the attendance this evening shows that the chord of sympathy has been struck at last. The gravity of the situation has now broken upon us, and it is no longer possible to ignore or minimise it. The Government have pledged themselves to do certain things, and they have been doing all in their power to afford relief. But the Government cannot be expected to do everything. The Government are

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alive to the responsibilities of the situation, and have already taken upon themselves the task of supplying the essential necessities of life, such as will enable the starved and the hungry to keep body and soul together. But there is much which private charity and private co-operation can do and which Government help and Government machinery will not or cannot do. We must respond to the call of our conscience. It is a call to come and co-operate to rescue from the claws of death and disease, men, women and children in those parts of the Indian Empire where the visitation has been intense. The Government will no doubt relieve absolute want, but we must supplement their action in various ways. The supplying of little but necessary comforts, and compensating losses with a view to support and give strength to the weak and emaciated population to enable them to take to their ordinary pursuits, must needs demand our attention. The need for public charity and the need for organising charitable relief committees are called forth by the severity of the calamity. Let us endeavour to help to feed and clothe the dying heroes of the afflicted parts who have been with marvellous patience combating and suffering untold miseries. Ladies and Gentlemen, the objects to which such contributions can be legitimately devoted have been fully stated in the published Government Despatch and are the result of great deliberation. The organisation there suggested is as complete as can be imagined or expected, and I have little doubt that any movement based upon the lines therein indicated is bound to deserve your support. The organisation of charitable committees is an unavoidable necessity. For mitigating suffering, relieving distress and saving from absolute destitution, money is as essential as a properly organised machinery for work."

## THE BISHOP.

The Lord Bishop of Calcutta in seconding the above resolution remarked that the Committee was formed with indefinite instructions, and he hoped that in the absence of any instruction it would be better to follow the recommendations of the Committee of 1900. Those would be their guide, but they were not prevented from making new experiments. He advised the Committee to follow the line of Government in this matter and discuss the details with local officials, for they afforded spectacles of organised heroes. They desired not only to feed the poor and to relieve their distress, but after the famine was over to open up a brighter future to those whose life was a blank despair.

## SIR F. MACLEAN.

Sir Francis Maclean, in supporting the resolution, said :—" It is a very depressing reflection that within the comparatively short period

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during which I have been in India, this is the third occasion upon which I have attended a meeting with the object similar to the present. But at the same time it is a pleasurable reflection that as regards the famine of to-day, both in point of area, in point of severity, and in point of number, it is far less than the great famines of 1897 and 1890. When I look round this platform I notice that many of the principal actors of the meeting of 1897 have passed away from India. That only raises the reflection that men may come and men may go, but the stream of charity flows on for ever. My experience in connection with the famines of 1897 and 1890 have told me and impressed upon me strongly how splendid is that object and what an enormous boon is conferred upon the people of this country by those who are charitably supported." His Lordship then explained the object of the meeting and supported the resolution.

Maharaj Kumar Hrishikesh Law, Kumar Manmatha Nath Roy Chowdhury of Santosh and Raja Gopendra Krishna Dey also supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Maharaja of Burdwan next moved the closing resolution, that a cordial vote of thanks be tendered to His Excellency the Viceroy for presiding on this occasion and for his kindly accepting the official Presidentship of the General Committee, and Nawab Abdur Rahman seconded the resolution, which was carried with acclamation.

The Viceroy, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, spoke as follows :—]

I deserve no thanks for being present at this meeting because the object which has brought us together is a melancholy one, and I can only tell you that if my attendance in any way tends to further the object of the meeting I shall feel myself highly rewarded.

[The meeting then concluded.]

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## DEBATE ON THE BUDGET, 1908-9.

[The Financial Statement was introduced and explained by the 27th Mar. 1908. Hon'ble the Finance Minister in the Supreme Legislative Council held at Government House on the 20th March 1908. The usual discussion took place on the 27th idem in which nearly all the Members took part. Notwithstanding the prevalence of famine it was felt that Government had done well and in the circumstances presented a good Budget.

His Excellency the Viceroy, in closing the proceedings, spoke as follows :—]

Last year it was my good fortune to be able to congratulate the Hon'ble Mr. Baker on the general prosperity which continued to assure the success of his financial policy, and though to-day we have been called upon to consider a Budget framed, I regret to say, under very different conditions, I cannot but express to him my appreciation, in which I know my Colleagues will share, of the administrative ability which has enabled him so well to meet a period of financial strain. We have again to deal with a famine, less serious no doubt than that of 1897 or 1900, but bringing with it much misery and suffering for the people of India, making heavy calls upon our revenue, and grievously delaying expenditure which last year we had every reason to hope might be still further devoted to the development of the country and the welfare of its population.

The extent and severity of the present famine is perhaps not quite fully realised, or possibly the knowledge that far better machinery exists for coping with distress than was available in former years has relieved the anxiety of the public—forgetful of the demands entailed upon the public purse. The Hon'ble Mr. Baker has told us that in the present year over 2 crores of rupees have been already distributed in the afflicted districts, and that 2 crores are being provided for issue next year—in comparison with 2'3 crores in 1896—1898 and 2'9 crores in 1899—1901. But it is money well spent, for, with the terrible history of former famines still fresh in our memories, I cannot but

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think we may gratefully recognise the results of past experience in the administrative efficiency which has enabled us, with no greater strain, to provide for a famine area of approximately 150,000 square miles, with 1½ millions of persons in receipt of relief.

And in the midst of all this distress a ray of sunshine lights up the gloomy outlook, for the ravages of the plague are weakening. The total deaths from plague in Bombay, the United Provinces and Punjab in 1908 are very much lower than those of the corresponding period in 1907. I find that, in January and February of the latter year, the deaths in those provinces were 44,319 and 78,063 against 7,445 and 11,898 in January and February of this year, whilst the total deaths in January and February 1907 were 122,382 against 18,343 in the same months of this year—an enormous reduction in mortality, and, allowing for climatic influences, I trust that we may not be too sanguine in hoping that this terrible scourge is at last beginning to give way to scientific research and to the energy of our officers assisted by the people themselves. The Hon'ble Mr. Reynolds has told us of the efforts made by the Government of the United Provinces to familiarise the people with the idea of inoculation, and of the reassuring effects of His Majesty's gracious letter of sympathy—and though I am well aware that, as the Hon'ble the Maharaja of Darbhanga has told us, the sources of plague, as of many other dire diseases, are to be found in the absence of effective sanitation, we must remember that effective sanitation in its modern sense is often opposed to long established customs which cannot be immediately thrown aside, and whilst persistently aiming at improvements in that direction we shall I am sure for long be compelled to rely much upon those experimental measures which have already been so beneficial when systematically adopted.

To return for a moment to the famine. I cannot entirely follow the arguments of the Hon'ble Mr. Chitnavis as to its

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causes. He admits the necessary results of a failure of the monsoon, but wonders that the same cause does not produce the same disastrous results in other countries. Now, all agricultural countries are peculiarly dependent on the seasons, drought and storms are everywhere answerable for much ruin, but I know of no agricultural country so peculiarly dependent on climatic conditions as India is on the monsoon. A failure in the monsoon must mean scarcity of produce, and consequent distress—and so I am afraid it must always be, except that I firmly believe that new conditions will arise as India develops, not to take the place of a good monsoon, but to afford employment and a livelihood to those who might otherwise have starved for want of food. In the present famine we have already seen something of such conditions, a demand for labour, high wages, and easier means of leaving afflicted districts to gain employment elsewhere. As years go on, such conditions will, it is to be hoped, multiply and will more and more assist the opportunities for a livelihood. I agree with my Hon'ble Colleague that economic questions are amongst the greatest of future Indian problems. I am far from saying there is no political unrest, but I believe that we shall find much more genuine unrest, or rather much more justifiable unrest, in respect to economic difficulties than in the region of so-called politics. That unrest will be associated with the development of Indian home industries, for though India is, in the first place, an agricultural country, it is in the development of resources that India herself possesses that the increasing educated community must look for employment. India will require to cherish her young industries.

It is on economic, and I would add on social, questions that the future of India so largely rests,—questions full of difficulty, both largely dependent for their solution on the people of India themselves. There is much in what the Hon'ble the Tikka Sahib has said as to social life in this country, but no one can know better than he does the strength

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of tradition and veneration with which it is surrounded and the difficulty of bridging the gulf which separates it from modern ideas, and yet with him I earnestly hope that the clouds are beginning to lift,—that we are beginning to look further ahead,—and that racial differences of thought and custom will grow less and less.

We have been told to-day of the efforts the Government of India is making to improve its administration in the interests of the people. The Hon'ble Mr. Miller has very ably explained to us the practical and scientific line upon which agricultural interests are being dealt with, and has told us of the success so far obtained by the newly introduced Co-operative Credit Societies in providing capital for agriculturists and of the development of the vast wealth of India's forests, and we have heard, too, of the many measures in progress to meet the growing demands of trade at Indian ports, amongst them the great work at Rangoon which the enormously increased commerce of Burma has rendered necessary. The outlook for the future is full of promise, but I am aware of the justice of some of the criticisms we have to-day listened to, such as the natural demand for improved internal communication in proportion to rapidly-growing requirements, dependent largely upon a railway administration, which we must admit has not as yet proved itself quite capable of satisfactorily meeting the calls upon it. I need only say that railway administration is now in the crucible, and that I hope a system will be evolved which will keep pace with the times.

The Hon'ble the Maharaja of Darbhanga has alluded to the Calcutta Improvement Scheme—the evidence that much requires to be done stares us in the face—it is not creditable to a great city that a congested population should have been for so long allowed to exist in its midst with the machinery of sanitation either non-existent or neglected,—in circumstances fraught with danger not only to itself, but to surrounding districts.

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The Hon'ble Sir H. Adamson has explained the intentions of the Government of India in respect to the scheme, which has its warm sympathy. The delay in carrying it out has been unfortunate ; at the same time there have been difficulties connected with its furtherance peculiar to Calcutta, there has been a dearth of Government land, and of assets upon which necessary funds could be raised. I trust that such difficulties have now been overcome.

The Hon'ble the Maharaja has drawn attention, as have other of my Hon'ble Colleagues, to the necessity for a reduction in military expenditure—a criticism to which His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has referred. The Anglo-Russian Convention has not unnaturally drawn attention to such considerations, but welcoming as I do the confirmation of friendly relations with our great neighbours, I cannot admit that any treaty would justify us in allowing our sword to grow rusty in its sheath. My Hon'ble Colleagues are very right in taking exception to extravagance in military expenditure, but I would venture to point out that reduction of expenditure on such a complicated matter as the army cannot be undertaken hastily without incurring grave risks, and a diminution in efficiency which it would be impossible to restore on the sudden appearance of unforeseen emergency.

The most expensive weapon may be the cheapest in the long run. We may justly claim the recent expedition as an example. His Excellency Lord Kitchener's military organisation enabled us to draw a sharper and better tempered sword than we have ever drawn before—the machinery of the expeditionary force had been tested in the Commander-in-Chief's workshop before it took the field, and when it did so, it was complete in every detail—the result has been an expedition of exceptional success and brevity, and brevity means economy. If India had preferred a cheaper weapon, we should have had to pay, and pay heavily, for loss of time, to say nothing about loss of life.



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Short as the expedition was, I hope its lessons will not be thrown away, and that the acceptance of a sound military administration may enable us to look forward with confidence to the great responsibilities of the future.

Now that the Calcutta session of the Government of India has come to a close, I cannot but recall the words I addressed to my Colleagues at our last Budget Debate in reference to the political future and the reforms which the Government of India had ventured to submit to the Secretary of State. I then gave an assurance that no legislation in connection with those reforms should be undertaken before the public in India and at home had had ample opportunity for an expression of opinion on the proposals we had placed before them.

Those proposals have now been published and submitted to Local Governments, all of whose replies have not as yet been received. The Government of India has always been anxious for the opinions and the criticisms of the public, and it is to that source they largely look for independent advice, but I confess I was hardly prepared, if my interpretation of his remark is correct, for the concluding portion of the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale's speech. He tells us that many things have happened during the last few years, but he omits to notice the efforts made by the Government of India to meet the representations put forward in these years, whilst he criticises the action of a Secretary of State, who, whilst determined to support law and order, has been throughout sympathetically in touch with the justifiable aspirations of the people of India.

My Hon'ble Colleague talks of the Government of India advancing and receding. They have advanced, but they have not receded; they have placed certain proposals for the amelioration of the political position in India before the Indian public, and they have asked that public for its opinion. My Hon'ble Colleague passes by the request

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at Allahabad.*

that the Government of India have made—not only that, in the face of that offer of reforms he has attributed to us hesitation and want of appreciation of the ambitions of the people of this country. I hope, however, that, when this Council next assembles, measures will have been accepted by His Majesty's Government and will be ready for legislation here, and which will go far to meet the aspirations of those who have the welfare of the Indian people at heart.

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PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE 1ST BATTALION,  
MIDDLESEX REGIMENT, AT ALLAHABAD.

[His Excellency the Viceroy, who left Calcutta by special train on 29th Mar. 1908. Saturday afternoon, arrived at Allahabad at 7-30 A.M. On the station platform a guard-of-honour of 100 rank and file of the East Indian Railway Volunteer Rifles with band was drawn up, and as His Excellency's train came to a standstill he was received with a Royal salute, the band playing the National Anthem. Lord Minto was received by General Sir E. Locke-Elliott, officiating in command of the Northern Army, among those present on the platform being the Honourable Sir John Stanley, Chief Justice; Mr. F. W. Brownrigg, Commissioner; Mr. A. MacNair, Collector; and Mr. Moseley, Superintendent of Police. After inspecting the guard-of-honour His Excellency crossed the railway bridge and entering Sir John Stanley's carriage was driven to the polo ground *via* Queen's Road, Canning Road and Hastings Road. The escort from the station to the polo ground was provided by the United Provinces Light Horse, and the roads were lined by the 4th Cavalry, 9th Bhopal Infantry, and Allahabad Rifle Volunteers. A cordon of police was formed up behind the troops lining the roads. Large numbers of people were present on and near the polo ground to witness the ceremony of presentation, including practically all residents in the station. The ceremony of presenting new colours is singularly interesting and impressive, and on this occasion it was followed with close attention by all who witnessed it. His Excellency the Viceroy was received on the parade ground by General Keir,

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*Presentation of Colours to the 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment,  
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commanding the Allahabad Brigade, who gave the order for the Royal salute, and then handed over the parade to Colonel Oliver, commanding the 1st Middlesex Regiment. The Viceroy was conducted to a special enclosure, near which a guard-of-honour of the Allahabad Rifle Volunteers under Captain Hocking, with the band of the 9th Bhopal Infantry, was drawn up. The Middlesex Regiment, who were in white uniforms, were drawn up in line. The band and drums advanced playing a slow march from *Traviata*. It may be noted that Sergeant Drummer Deacon, who led the band and drums, was present with the battalion when the tenth set of colours were presented in 1867; he had then about two years' service, but he is still as hale and hearty as when he joined. The band and drummers having advanced to the front of the regiment, the drummer's call was sounded, and the escort for the colours advanced, under command of Major Blakeney, D.S.O., and preceded by the band and drums playing "The British Grenadiers." Sergeant-Major Cook having handed the old King's colour to Lieutenant Wheatley and the old regimental colour to Lieutenant Allott, the escort presented arms to the colours, the band playing "God save the King." The colours were then trooped and escorted along the line for a last farewell, the band following the colours and playing "Auld Lang Syne." When this part of the ceremony was over the old colours were taken to the rear of the line, and the battalion was formed into three sides of a square in front of His Excellency's enclosure. The drums were piled in the centre of the square and the new colours placed upon them. The colours were then consecrated by the Rev. D. A. Canney, Garrison Chaplain, assisted by the Rev. E. A. Oldham. The religious service was short but impressive. It began with the Lord's prayer and the reading, by the Rev. G. E. Oldham, of Psalm 144, "Blessed be the Lord my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight." The Rev. D. A. Canney offered prayer, and then said, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, I dedicate these colours to be the colours of the 1st Battalion, Duke of Cambridge's Own Middlesex Regiment." Then followed another prayer, and the hymn "Brightly gleams our banner" sung by the whole battalion. After the consecration Major Rowley handed the King's colour to His Excellency the Viceroy, who presented it to Lieutenant Skaife, and the regimental colour being similarly handed to His Excellency by Major Elgee was presented to Lieutenant Gibbons.

His Excellency the Viceroy then addressed the battalion as follows:—]

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*Presentation of Colours to the 1st Battalion, Middlesex Regiment,  
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*Colonel Oliver, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 1st Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment*,—It is not only a great pleasure to me to be here to-day, but I feel also highly honoured at having been invited to present new colours to a regiment with such a distinguished record of war service.

The regiment has played its part in almost all the most stirring episodes of English history. It was raised at the commencement of the Seven Years' War, and to be quite correct was, I believe, originally the 59th, but in 1757 it became the 57th, and has remained the 57th ever since.

It first saw active service in the American War of Independence and took part in the battles of Brooklyn and Brandywine, in various expeditions in the neighbourhood of New York and at the siege and capture of Charlestown in 1780. On the close of the American War it was sent to Nova Scotia, and in 1791 returned to England. In 1793 war broke out with the French Republic, and the 57th was sent to reinforce the army under the Duke of York in the low countries and was recalled almost immediately to join Lord Moira's expedition to assist the French Royalists in Brittany, after which it went back again to the Netherlands, saw much fighting under the Duke of York and retired with his army behind the Waal. In 1796 the regiment sailed for the West Indies and took part in the capture of St. Lucia. It was at that time commanded by Colonel Picton, afterwards General Sir Thomas Picton, who fell at Waterloo. After the Treaty of Amiens in 1802 it returned to England and formed part of the troops intended to defend the south coast against Napoleon's threatened invasion. It was subsequently stationed at Gibraltar, and in 1809 was ordered to join the army under Sir Arthur Wellesley in Portugal, and at once began to play its part in that splendid story which Napier has told so well. In the early days of the war it was

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present at Busaco and the retirement within the lines of Torres-Vedras, and in 1811 formed part of the force that followed the retreat of Marshal Massena. Then came the battle of Albuhera where it covered itself with glory. Having gone into action with a strength of some 30 officers and 570 men, the senior officer brought out of action about 10 officers and 150 men, its Colonel lying wounded on the ground and exhorting his men to die hard. Ever since that the 57th have been "The Diehards," and in recognition of their services on that memorable day they wear the laurel wreath as the regimental crest. Then followed all the desperate battles, the history of which one knows so well, the siege and storming of Badajoz, perhaps the most bloody fighting of any war, the passage of the Ebro, the battle of Vittoria, the tremendous struggles in the Pyrenees, the battles of the Nivelle, Nive, and St. Pierre, and then Orthez and Toulouse—an epoch of great battles. And then after all these victories we come to what has always seemed to me one of the saddest pages of the history of the Peninsular Army—a large part of the army which had fought its way through Spain and Portugal was sent off at a moment's notice from Bordeaux to take part in the American War and to share in the disasters of New Orleans. If my recollection is correct, General Picton was in command of that force, but I believe the 57th itself was sent to Quebec instead of to the Southern States. In 1815 the regiment returned to England too late for Waterloo, but joined the Duke of Wellington's army of occupation and remained in France till that army was withdrawn. In subsequent years it served in Australia and India and so on till 1854, when it found itself again in the field with the army before Sebastopol, took part in the battles of Balaclava and Inkerman, and was selected for the storming party on the first attack on the Redan, where it lost heavily, its Colonel being amongst the killed. It returned to India after the Mutiny and

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subsequently saw much service in New Zealand in the Maori War, and in 1867 was back in England. In 1879 it saw service in South Africa and took part in the actions of Ginghiloyo and the relief of Etshowe and was present at the battle of Ulundi. In 1896 it again embarked at short notice for South Africa and proceeded from there to India in 1898.

This is the third occasion on which new colours have been presented to the regiment.

In 1853 Viscount Hardinge, who had succeeded the Duke of Wellington as Commander-in-Chief, presented new colours to the 57th, stipulating only that the old colours which had been so gallantly carried at Albuhera should be sent to him. They were then in possession of Captain Inglis, whose father commanded the regiment at that battle. The colours presented by Lord Hardinge saw service all over the world, and new colours were again presented to the regiment in 1867. Those are the colours which after forty years with the regiment I now have the honour to replace. Colonel Oliver, I present these new colours to the regiment which you have the honour to command, knowing that they will be cherished with the same loyalty to the King-Emperor and guarded with the same magnificent devotion as has distinguished the 57th during its many years of warfare.

[Colonel Oliver, in replying, said they were much indebted to His Excellency for the honour he had done them in performing the ceremony just completed. They had cause for hearty congratulations in having so distinguished a soldier and statesman as Lord Minto to hand over to them their new colours, and they had listened with great interest to the words he had addressed to them on the history of their regiment, of which they were justly proud.

Lieutenants Skaife and Gibbons advanced with the new colours to their place in line, the battalion receiving them with a general salute while the band of the regiment again played the National Anthem.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the battalion marched past in column of companies, and His Excellency then went by motor to the 1st Middlesex Officers' Mess, where he breakfasted with the officers. The road to the Mess was lined by the 4th Cavalry, and a guard-of-

*Visit to, and Address from, the M. A. O. College, Aligarh.*

honour was furnished by the 9th Bhopal Infantry. After breakfast His Excellency returned to the station, and continued his journey to Gwalior about 11 A.M. The return journey was made by motor *via* Thornhill and Queen's Roads, the roads being lined by the 4th Cavalry and 9th Bhopal Infantry, the police as before being formed up behind the troops.]

## BANQUET AT GWALIOR.

21st Apl. 1908. [On Tuesday, the 21st April, His Excellency the Viceroy attended a gymkhana in the afternoon at the Elgin Club, and in the evening there was a large dinner party at the palace, fifty-four ladies and gentlemen being present. After drinking the King-Emperor's health H. H. Scindia (the Maharaja of Gwalior) proposed the toast of His Excellency in a short speech, and said how much pleasure it had given him to have entertained the Viceroy for the past three weeks, though he hoped that His Excellency would soon honour him with another visit, and next time would bring Her Excellency Lady Minto with him. He felt sure that these visits to the States of Native Chiefs were of the greatest possible benefit.

In reply His Excellency thanked the Maharaja for all his kindness and hospitality and complimented him especially on his wonderful organisation, saying what a pleasure it had given him to see so much of Gwalior State and the admirable way in which it was administered. He characterised His Highness as a first-class administrator, sportsman, and host.]

VISIT TO, AND ADDRESS FROM, THE M. A. O.  
COLLEGE, ALIGARH.

22nd Apl. 1908. [The Viceregal party left Gwalior by special train at 11 P.M., and arrived at Aligarh next morning at seven o'clock. There were on the platform to meet His Excellency, Nawab Sir Fayaz Ali Khan, the President; Maulvi Mustaq Hussain, the Secretary; Mr. Archbold, the Principal; the Joint Secretary and the Trustees of the M. A. O. College of Aligarh, and also Mr. Peart, the Collector of Aligarh. When all these gentlemen had been presented to him, the Viceroy drove with the President to the College, and was met at the porch of the main gate of the Sir Saiyad Court by the chief officials of the College, when the Indian and English gentlemen of the staff were presented to him. His Excellency then visited all the buildings of the College, including the library and laboratory and the English house, where

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Miss Harris, the Lady Superintendent, was presented to him. From here the mosque and tombs and the Nizam Museum were in turn visited, till the Strachey Hall was reached. When His Excellency had taken his seat, the President asked permission for Mian Shah Din, one of the Trustees, to read an address, which was as follows :—

*May it please Your Excellency,*—We, the Trustees of the Mahomedan Anglo-Oriental College, Aligarh, beg most humbly and respectfully to approach Your Excellency with sincere gratitude for the honour you have been pleased to confer upon us and upon our community by visiting this College to-day. The visit of the representative of our Sovereign and of the Head of our Government is to us always a source of great gratification and pride; but we welcome Your Excellency with feelings of special regard, respect and honour, as we recognise in you a sincere friend and benefactor of our people. At a time when the fortunes of our community were at their lowest ebb, when their prospects in the struggle for existence going on around us were of the gloomiest, Your Excellency's statesmanlike and generous policy towards them raised us from the depths of despondency and filled us with a new life, new hope, new courage, which bid fair to usher in the dawn of a brighter future for the Musalmans of India. In their affection and regard Your Excellency therefore occupies a unique position, and past experience has taught them that they may confidently rely on Your Excellency's practical sympathy with their national aims and aspirations. On the present occasion, when Your Excellency sets foot for the first time on the soil of Aligarh, and amidst all the engrossing cares and responsibilities of this vast Empire finds time to pay a visit to this centre of Musalman national life, we greet you no less as a trusted friend of Musalman progress and Musalman education than as the Viceroy and Governor-General of the Indian Empire. And here we cannot refrain from alluding to one who had long looked forward to this auspicious day, and from whom, had he been spared to us, Your Excellency would have received a most sincere welcome. The late Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk was the right-hand man of the great founder of this College, whose work and mission he carried on with conspicuous success, and with a singleness of purpose and self-sacrificing devotion worthy of all praise. Both his work and his example are to us a national asset, and his death is no less a national loss.

Your Excellency is already so well acquainted with the aims and objects of this College, with its ideals and its methods of work, that our task of explaining these matters to you is comparatively a simple one. It was in the dark days of the Indian Mutiny that its great



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founder, the late Sir Saiyad Ahmad, K.C.S.I., was seized with the conviction that education of the right kind, including Western learning and the teaching of modern science, was the only weapon with which it was possible to fight the superstition and ignorance in which the vast majority of his co-religionists were then steeped. The College at Aligarh founded in 1875 was the ultimate outcome of that conviction; but meanwhile the soil had to be prepared for the reception of the good seed it was to sow in the distant future. Sir Saiyad saw clearly that unless Musalman religious ideas of the day could be freed from their superstitious accretions, his educational scheme would be foredoomed to failure. But at a time when even to learn the mere rudiments of the English language was regarded by gentle and simple, by maulvi and layman, as the surest way to perdition and tantamount to a renunciation of Islam, this was no easy matter. With characteristic energy, Sir Saiyad undertook single-handed this Herculean task, and his labours were rewarded with unparalleled success. The story of his gigantic struggle against the forces of fanaticism, suspicion, prejudice and immemorial custom, arrayed against him in all their strength and intensity, forms a brilliant chapter in the history of all recent movements for reform of a socio-religious order. Even before his death he had succeeded in converting into good-will and active support the determined opposition and the *odium theologicum* with which his earlier efforts were rewarded.

But his task was not completed until he had achieved equal success in another and far more important aspect of his work, namely, that of reconciling Indian Mahomedans to British rule. At the time of which we are speaking the recollections of their former greatness and dominion were still fresh in their minds, and they regarded the new régime with singular suspicion and distrust, engendering corresponding feelings towards them in the minds of the British authorities. Sir Saiyad, on the one hand, by ceaselessly pointing out to his co-religionists the blessings of British rule and impressing on them more especially the freedom of worship and religious toleration they enjoyed under its ægis, and on the other, by demonstrating conclusively that there was nothing in the principles or doctrines of Islam which was in any way antagonistic to British rule, succeeded in removing those mutual misunderstandings, and in bringing about a state of affairs in which sentiments of absolute trust in the justice and humanity of British rule, and in its policy of religious toleration, liberal education, progressive and well-considered reform became and are to-day the prominent characteristics of Musalman political faith.

At Sir Saiyad's death the whole aspect of affairs was changed, and since then the Musalman community throughout the length and breadth

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of India has come to appreciate, at its true worth, his life-long labour, and to recognise this College as their only national seat of learning. The College represents the Musalman ideal in education, in social life and even in politics. It is the centre of their most cherished hopes, of their highest aspirations, of their future progress, enlightenment and advance; and with it are bound up for better or for worse all their hopes for the regeneration of their race.

The secret of Sir Saiyad Ahmad's success lay in finding out the exact educational requirements of his community, and in providing for them. He saw that the existing Government Colleges and Schools, committed as they were to a policy of absolute religious neutrality, and to the promulgation of secular instruction pure and simple, were in every way unsuitable for the Mahomedans who attached the greatest importance to religious teaching. Indeed, their one fear was lest English education should sap the foundations of faith, and they were not prepared to accept it for their youth at the expense of all sense of reverence. Moreover, almost entirely detached as this instruction was from the personal influence of the teachers, it failed in the main object of all education, namely, the formation of character.

Sir Saiyad saw the supreme importance of the residential system and of religious teaching, and by making these two principles the foundation upon which he built up his system of education, he allayed the suspicions of his co-religionists and converted their aversion or indifference into a keen desire for education, provided always that these two principles were maintained unimpaired.

Another special feature of the Aligarh College, now widely imitated like its residential system, is the prominence given in its educational scheme to manly sports of all kinds, which are systematically encouraged by precept and example, and taken up by the students with a keenness nowhere surpassed. A riding school, and provision for cricket, football, hockey and other manly sports form part of its equipment.

It was by a combination of all these special features that the great founder of the College realised his ideal of what a sound, liberal, and truly national education should be. The whole drift of his wise and statesmanlike policy was that the College should send out into the world not merely men of learning but men of active habits and self-reliance, imbued with a strong sense of their duty as citizens and as loyal subjects of the State. Those connected with the Aligarh movement lay no claim to a monopoly of loyalty—far from it—but they are proudly conscious of the fact that theirs is the only

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educational institution in India where every effort is made systematically to impress on students the lessons that true patriotism and true loyalty, so far from being incompatible, are in reality one and the same thing and cannot be divorced from one another to any good or useful purpose. Experience shows that the lessons thus taught do not lead to a habit of servile cringing, but to a manly, outspoken and withal respectful attitude towards our rulers, which has given the *alumni* of the College a well-earned reputation for good manners. The whole environment of students at Aligarh, moreover, tends to generate an *esprit de corps* which distinguishes them throughout their lives. The type of young men thus turned out has often received the highest appreciation and eulogy of British officers of all ranks and of non-officials. This type it is the earnest desire of the whole Muslim community and of the trustees of this College to perpetuate, to improve, and to disseminate widely over this great Continent.

The establishment of this College was the first example in India of a real national effort at self-help. As such, and because it was founded on sound principles, it attracted from its very inception the sympathy and support not only of our own princes and people, noblemen and gentry, nawabs and zemindars, but also of English gentlemen and English officials of the highest degree, and successive Viceroys, Lieutenant-Governors and British officers have patronised it both in their official and their private capacities. Under such high patronage and under the quickening forces which owe their origin in this country to the benign influence of British rule, the College has flourished and has reached its present stage of evolution, and our *motto* must still be "Excelsior." We must not look back, we must not mark time, for the crying needs and the daily growing requirements of our community forbid us to do so. Year after year we have to send away, for want of accommodation, hundreds of our youths from all parts of India, either to idle away their time at home or worse still, to join some educational institution with methods and ideals different from our own. Such is the confidence of the Musalman community in this College, that there is no limit to candidates for admission except such as want of accommodation necessarily imposes upon us; and that this confidence is shared by Mahomedans in all parts of India and even in countries beyond its borders, is amply borne out by the following statement of the places from which College and School Boarders at present on our rolls come to us:—

The United Provinces of Agra and Oudh . . .	366
Punjab . . . . .	130
Frontier Province . . . . .	22

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Baluchistan . . . . .	2
Bengal and Behar . . . . .	92
Eastern Bengal . . . . .	33
The Central Provinces and Berar . . . . .	25
Madras . . . . .	19
Bombay and Sindh . . . . .	30
Hyderabad, Deccan . . . . .	58
Rajputana . . . . .	3
Nepal . . . . .	1
Burma . . . . .	4
Chitral . . . . .	3
Transvaal . . . . .	1
Total . . . . .	789

Some may think that this College has reached the limits of expansion, but the Trustees would be wanting in their sense of duty to the community and would be betraying the sacred trust bequeathed to them, if they failed to place upon record a respectful but emphatic negation of any such suggestion. Our present situation may be briefly described as follows:—On the one hand we find that in order to hold our own against other races in the keen competition of the present day, we must arm ourselves with knowledge—knowledge such as modern science and high education alone are capable of furnishing us. In every walk of life, whether in Government service or private employment, in the professions, in trades or in commerce, the weapons with which the battle of life has now to be fought consist of high educational qualifications, character, and training. On the other hand we have the pitiable spectacle of the extreme backwardness of our community in education, more specially when once the precincts of the primary school have been passed. The figures given below bear eloquent but mournful testimony to the truth of this observation. To take the instance of the Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam which has got the largest Mahomedan population and where the proportion of the Mahomedan to the general population is about 66 per cent., the proportion of Mahomedans receiving education compared with the other communities in 1906 was as follows:—

(1) Primary education . . . . .	52 per cent.
(2) Secondary „ . . . . .	16 „
(3) Arts Colleges . . . . .	3 „
(4) Professional Colleges . . . . .	2 „

and yet from this very Province of Eastern Bengal we have been obliged to refuse many boys for want of accommodation. Similarly a

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number of applications for admission have to be refused every year from all the Provinces of India.

What happens to these young men when they are thus refused admission is to the Trustees of this College a matter of the deepest concern; and they venture to submit that when the position is clearly placed before Your Excellency, you will not regard their anxiety as altogether baseless. It has already been explained that merely as a question of self-preservation in their competition against other races, the desire for education among Indian Mahomedans has now become very strong, and they would prefer to have such education on the lines followed at Aligarh.

But if through unavoidable circumstances they should be unable to send their youths to us, they must perforce let their sons join such educational institutions as may be within their reach. Your Excellency has, on different occasions, very justly expressed your disapproval of the abuse of educational opportunities, of the absence, in ordinary schools and colleges, of facilities for religious instructions and of arrangements for the residence and supervision of the pupils. The Trustees cannot but feel a glow of pride at the thought that Your Excellency has thus indirectly approved of the very principles which they so dearly cherish at Aligarh, and which have been put into practice in this College from its first foundation. They also feel that Your Excellency will sympathise with them when they ask themselves the following questions:—Is it wise, is it politic, is it in the best interests of the Mahomedan community or of the British Government that we should shut the door in the faces of our youth, and drive them thus to schools where opportunity and example for the abuse of educational facilities may abound, where the formation of character may be no part of the schoolmaster's business, and where religious instruction may be conspicuous by its absence. Sir Saiyad and his successors laboured incessantly to prove to our people the urgent need for education, and now that they have succeeded in creating among them a demand for it, are we to tell them to go away and seek it in places where none of Sir Saiyad's ideals are recognised, and where the education is entirely unsuitable for the needs of our community.

To all these questions the Trustees feel it their duty to answer in the negative. They, on the contrary, are convinced of the need for the expansion of this College; and the point they wish to emphasize here is that theirs is no parochial seminary, but a national Educational Institution for the whole of India and its dependencies. Numbers which may seem large for a single town or even for a province become insignificant when we consider them in relation to the whole country.

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After Sir Saiyad, no one has helped more to place this College on a sound footing than his trusted friend and adviser, the late Mr. Theodore Beck, the popular, sympathetic and zealous Principal of the College, who did more to save it at a critical period of its history than any one else. His ideals and those of Sir Saiyad with regard to the expansion of this College are ours to-day. Their view of its ultimate development was the formation of a Mahomedan University, of which the idea was strongly supported by the late Mr. Justice Mahmood, son of Sir Saiyad, and by Mr. Theodore Morison, our last Principal. The former may indeed be said to have formulated, if not fathered, the University scheme, while the latter developed it in his numerous writings on the subject. As regards numbers, Sir Saiyad and Mr. Beck put down one thousand for the College Classes, and at least the same number should be allowed for the School. We need hardly point out to Your Excellency that ever since the foundation of the College our Collegiate School has formed an essential part of the scheme on which the educational system of this College is based. Our School, like our College, is not confined to any one district or province, but undertakes the education and training of students not only from all parts of this country but even from countries outside India. The English House and the Zahur Husain Ward have, at the present time, on their roll boys of very tender age from Rangoon, Siam and other distant provinces. We attach very great importance to the part which our School plays in our educational system, for it is only boys who have passed on from the School to the College that have benefited to the fullest extent from the whole training and discipline of the place and that represent the true Aligarh type.

We are fully conscious of the fact that this expansion must be slow and gradual, and *pari passu*, there must go on an increase in the staff and in the accommodation. Any increase in numbers entails additional work on our staff, both English and Indian, but specially on the English staff. It is their supervision, their example, and their sympathy that we prize so highly and that we wish to secure to the fullest extent. They are gentlemen of ability, refinement and culture whose influence in moulding the characters of our boys at an impressionable age is a factor of infinite value and importance to this College. We remember with feelings of gratitude not only the late Mr. Theodore Beck, but such men as Mr. Arnold, Mr. Morison and many others. We have nothing but admiration and regard for our present staff—Mr. Archbold (our Principal), Mr. Towle, Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad, Mr. Rees (our Head Master) and their colleagues. We are conscious that although ours is, if not the largest, at least as large a European Staff as that of any Arts College in India, with the

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exception of the St. Xavier's Colleges at Calcutta and Bombay (where there are additional Professors for the European classics), the work entailed on its members on account of the supervision they have to exercise over the boys is of an arduous nature, and any further increase in the number of students or the cultivation of closer relations with the boys must mean an increase in the staff. Our Boarding House accommodation also, although the largest in India, will require further expansion. But money spent on Boarding Houses we find to be the best investment for our capital—the returns leaving a margin for the employment of extra staff.

Before anything practical can be done, further funds are of course necessary. With that object the Trustees have started the Mohsin-ul-Mulk Memorial Fund, and will exert every nerve to collect contributions as soon as it may please Providence to lighten somewhat the burden of the famine. After the death of the late Sir Saiyad, which was a time of even greater financial need, we had to make a similar effort for raising necessary funds, and the sympathy and support which were extended to the movement by Your Excellency's predecessor Lord Elgin and the Government are deeply impressed on our grateful hearts. Our present needs are of equally pressing nature, but with the countenance and sympathy of the Government, which has always been extended to us, and with the support of our patrons, old and new, we have every reason to hope for success in our endeavours. A few only of such patrons we can find space here for mentioning by name. They have made Aligarh what it is, and the whole community is under an everlasting debt of gratitude to them. Among our oldest benefactors is His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, among our newest His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan; while the College has always been most generously helped and supported by His Highness Sir Agha Khan of Bombay, His Highness the Nawab of Rampore, His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, His Highness the Nawab of Malerkotla, His Highness the Nawab of Bhawalpore, His Highness the Nawab of Jaora, the Honourable Nawab Sir Fayaz Ali Khan and the late Raja of Nanpara. The latest addition to our resources is the Prince of Wales' School of Science, the establishment of which has been rendered possible by the princely generosity of Sir Adamji Peerbhoy of Bombay, and by the munificent gifts of His Highness the Agha Khan, the Raja of Mahmudabad and Nawab Sir Fayaz Ali Khan, our respected President. Another Faculty, that of advanced Arabic, for the post-graduate study of that classic, has been strengthened by the generosity of the Government, by that of the Raja of Jahangirabad, and by a host of other donors; while the Faculty of Theology has been supported by Hadji Ahmad Said

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Khan of Bhikampore. The education of women, of which a beginning has been made in Aligarh, has received the warmest support from Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal, His Highness the Nawab of Bhawalpore, His Highness the Nawab of Tonk and His Highness the Mir of Khairpore, Sindh. This strengthening of the various Faculties and enlarging of boundaries of study, one after another as opportunities offer, is in fact the plan of action which the Trustees have deliberately mapped out for themselves in their policy of expansion. It is thoroughness and efficiency in each Faculty that they are determined to secure, rather than mere rapid expansion with corresponding weakness.

It is with great pleasure that we mention, on this occasion, the latest act of generosity on the part of one of our Trustees, whose name is well known in the country, and who has served in an important Native State for a long time with remarkable distinction and success. Khan Bahadur Yar Mohammad Khan, C.S.I., the Prime Minister of Jaora State, has, with the entire concurrence of his heirs, obtained the sanction of His Highness the Nawab of Jaora for transferring to the M. A. O. College, Aligarh (as a permanent grant), the Family Pension of Rs. 320 a month, which the State had granted to the family of the Khan Bahadur in perpetuity from the time of his father. We have received the formal SANAD duly signed, sanctioning the said Grant to the Aligarh College permanently. It is needless to add that, by this magnanimous and noble act, our esteemed Khan Bahadur has secured a prominent place in the list of our community's benefactors, and the large-minded self-denial shown by his heirs sets an example worthy of all praise.

Lastly, we beg again most earnestly to thank Your Excellency for the trouble you have taken in coming here and for the opportunity, you have been pleased to accord to us of addressing you on matters that closely touch the interests of our College and our community matters to which Your Excellency has vouchsafed a patient hearing, for which we shall be ever grateful, and as in duty bound, we shall pray for Your Excellency's long life and prosperity.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you for your address and for the cordiality of your welcome to me on my first visit to Aligarh. I assure you I sincerely value your courteous and appreciative words, and you may always rely upon my interest and sympathy in the patriotic aims which your College has done so much to further.



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I have long looked forward to this visit. I know how anxious your late distinguished and much beloved Secretary, the Nawab Moshin-ul-Mulk, was that I should come here. I wish I could have done so under his guidance, but it was not to be. He was sitting in my room at Simla only a few days before he passed away, and I know how dear to him was all that concerned you here. He was, as you rightly say, the right-hand man of the great founder of this College, to which he has bequeathed an invaluable legacy in the memory of his devoted labours and example.

I have listened with the deepest interest to the history of Aligarh which you have so ably sketched. Your College is only 33 years old—little more than the recognised life of a generation,—yet in those few years I think I may say without exaggeration it has established itself as the centre and directing influence of educated Mahomedan thought in India. It has nobly fulfilled the hopes of its great founder. We may justly marvel at the commanding position it now holds when we remember what Sir Saiyad Ahmed had to face at the commencement of his great work : not only financial difficulties, which were plentiful enough, but something much harder to cope with—the weight of social and religious suspicion—the unthinking opposition of traditional customs—and he triumphed over them. He triumphed in the recognition of the idea for which he had fought so hard, the combination of the advantages of Western education with the sanctity of all that is best in Musulman religion. To my mind he struck the keynote of the education India requires. He saw plainly the danger that must beset rising generations if they were to be reared on a smattering of Western knowledge, with no opportunities for that spiritual guidance upon which their forefathers relied, with no care for the self-restraint and self-sacrifice which every religion demands, with no religious ideals to look up to. To meet such risks he inaugurated that residential system combined with

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religious teaching which has been so successful in its results.

The College made its first start on the Queen's birthday, in May 1875, but it was not till 1877 that the foundation-stone of the present group of buildings was laid by Lord Lytton just after the Imperial Durbar had broken up. The final sentence of the address then presented to the Viceroy expressed the hope that the College which had made such a modest beginning would eventually expand into a University: "Whose sons shall go forth throughout the length and breadth of the land to preach the gospel of free enquiry, of large-hearted toleration and of pure morality."

The University has not come as yet, but no one can deny that the *alumni* of the College have fulfilled the hopes expressed in that address to an extent that its founder can hardly have dared to expect. Aligarh has set its stamp upon the pupils it has sent forth into the world. As long ago as 1892 Sir Auckland Colvin said: "To have been an Aligarh man is, I have over and over again found, a passport to the respect and confidence of both Englishmen and Natives. They carry with them the stamp of their training, the impress of the mind of the man under whom that training has been accomplished."

The history of the College may be divided into two periods. From 1875 to 1887 it was one long struggle to place the institution on a solid financial basis and to make it popular with the whole Musulman community, whilst after 1887 the tide of public opinion began to flow in Sir Saiyad's favour, and under him and his honoured successor, Nawab Moshin-ul-Mulk, and with the whole-hearted assistance of its staff, it has continued steadily to expand. Perhaps it is not too much to say that Aligarh has now entered upon a third period of its existence, when it may justly claim that the training it has administered and the high ideals it has encouraged are spreading far beyond the confines of the College for the benefit of the Musulman population of India.

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But the very success which the College has achieved is increasing its opportunities for more good work, and a great deal still remains to be done. You have very rightly emphatically asserted in your address that the limits of the expansion of Aligarh have not been reached. There are many backward Mahomedan communities amongst whom education has scarcely penetrated at all, and there is a growing demand for that instruction which in these days of competition is becoming more and more necessary for success. Moreover, you have recognised the great part the education of women, with their influence over home life, must play in the future—and in all this educational advancement the Indian Mahomedan prefers the lines laid down by Aligarh and is looking to her for assistance.

I hope that the Mahomedan community of India will be mindful of its educational wants and will not be forgetful of what they already owe to the great work of Sir Saiyad Ahmed. Much must, I know, depend upon individual liberality, and Aligarh has had the assistance of many munificent benefactors, whilst the splendid generosity of Khan Bahadur Yar Mohammad Khan, who has with the sanction of His Highness the Nawab of Jaora, and with the self-denying concurrence of his own heirs, made over to you the Family Pension earned by distinguished services, affords indeed a striking testimony of the value so justly attached to the services of this great institution.

I congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the work Aligarh has already done, and I heartily share with you in your hopes for its continued success in years to come.

May I be allowed to say one word more. Your Secretary, Maulvi Mustaq Hussain, has succeeded the Nawab Moshin-ul-Mulk, and I am well aware of the heavy responsibilities and the constant work demanded of him. I feel sure therefore that I shall be meeting the universal wish of Aligarh in conferring upon him the title of Nawab so long held by his distinguished predecessor.

## EXPLOSIVE SUBSTANCES AND NEWSPAPERS BILLS.

[The above Bills—the one to deal with the use and manufacture 8th June, 1908. of explosives and conspiracies connected with them, the other for the prevention of incitements to murder and other offences in newspapers—were introduced into the Legislative Council on the 8th June and passed into Law the same day.]

His Excellency the Viceroy, in closing the Meeting, addressed the Council as follows :—]

Before I put the motion, I would venture to make a few remarks.

My Hon'ble Colleague, Sir Harvey Adamson, has clearly and ably explained the nature of the measures we have before us to-day. He has recapitulated the powers we have hitherto possessed under the law, and has shown how utterly insufficient they have proved to enable us to deal with existing circumstances.

The lamentable incidents at Mozufferpore have sent a thrill of horror throughout India, and have too clearly warned us that we must be prepared to deal immediately with an iniquitous conspiracy and with murderous methods hitherto unknown to India.

I know that my Hon'ble Colleagues will join with me in expressing the sincerest sympathy for Mr. Pringle Kennedy in his terrible bereavement. His attachment to India and his many years of good work have earned him the respect and affection of English and Indian society alike, in which his wife and daughter very fully shared. There have been other atrocious deeds besides that at Mozufferpore—one cannot forget the sufferers from the explosion in Grey Street in Calcutta, or the deliberate attempts to assassinate Sir Andrew Fraser, the Maire of Chandernagore and Mr. Kingsford. As to Mr. Kingsford, the public have been told in India and at home that the attempts on his life were due to the infliction by him of sentences of flogging for political offences—an unwarrantable accusation, which I am glad to have this opportunity

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of denying, against one who has fearlessly and straightforwardly done his duty. In not a single case has Mr. Kingsford awarded flogging as punishment for political offences.

My Hon'ble Colleague has dealt so fully with the details of the legislation we propose to pass to-day that I need only refer to the general position with which we are confronted. It is very necessary that no preconceived prejudice should blind our judgment. It was, I believe, the Duke of Wellington who said that he had spent the best part of his life in trying to know what was going on on the other side of the hill on his front—and for us the *pardah* of the East unfortunately hides much from view. It would be better for us and for the many races of this country if we knew how to lift it—at present we have failed to do so. We cannot but speculate as to much that it conceals, yet it is all-important that our guesswork should not be hasty or unjust.

All India has been shocked by a cruel crime. Expressions of abhorrence and condemnation have reached us from public meetings, associations, and Indian gentlemen throughout the country, and the great mass of the people have loyally shared with the British Raj in detestation of its contemptible brutality. What we, the Government of India, have had to consider is the nature of these crimes, the influences which originated them, and the best means for protecting the populations, with whose safety we are charged, against the perpetration of similar outrages.

We all know—at least every one who watches the daily story of Indian political life knows—that the lines of Indian thought are changing, and that embryo national aspirations are beginning to take shape, and it will be a bad day for the British Raj and a bad day for the people of this country if we ever allow the belief to spread that the doctrines of murderous anarchy are even indirectly

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associated with the growth of those ambitions which British education has done so much to encourage. Nothing to my mind has been more unfortunate and despicable than the readiness with which in certain quarters endeavours have been heedlessly made to further a belief that assassination is merely the effort of a down-trodden people struggling to free itself from a foreign oppressor. The conspiracy with which we have to deal represents nothing of the sort. To the best of my belief it has largely emanated from sources beyond the confines of India. Its anarchical aims and the outrageous doctrines it inculcates are entirely new to this country. But unfortunately the seeds of its wickedness have been sown amongst a strangely impressionable and imitative people,—seeds that have been daily nurtured by a system of seditious writing and seditious speaking of unparalleled virulence vociferating to beguiled youth that outrage is the evidence of patriotism and its reward a martyr's crown.

I have no desire to minimise the dangers of the present time—they are evident enough. I know well the anxieties that the suspicions of subterranean plots must bring to all loyal men and women of whatever race or creed. No one can say how far the poison has spread. I only ask that the nature of it should not be misunderstood, that the canker we have discovered should be localised, and that we should not jump to the conclusion that it has spread beyond the control of legitimate remedies. What those remedies should be have been for some weeks under the careful consideration of the Government of India. The two Bills which we are about to pass are the results of our deliberations. My Colleagues will support me when I say that we have had no lack of advice. The public has been told that we are weak, that we have failed to maintain order, that the glory of England has departed, that strong measures have been neglected. I am no believer in compliance with hysterical demands in the hour of danger. I maintain that

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the strength of the British Raj has been built up upon the justice of its administration. Heaven knows it has been no weak rule, but it has been a just one—and it will continue to be so.

It has been with a heavy sense of responsibility that the Government of India has recognised that the law of the land has not been strong enough to enable us to cope with the present emergency. We have felt that we must have further powers. We have had two main points before us—How best to deal with bomb outrages and the conspiracies connected with them; and how to annihilate the evil influence which has done so much to inspire them. The machinery we have decided to adopt is before you in the two Bills which the Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson has introduced. In them we have, after careful consideration, empowered judicial rather than executive procedure. We have preferred to act by legislation. But another course was open to us—We might have proceeded by the issue of an Ordinance; we should have saved time by doing so, and the condition of affairs demanded prompt and decided action. And now, if we are asked why, when we decided to proceed by legislation, we did not let that legislation follow the normal course of publication, reference to Select Committee, report and final discussion, I unhesitatingly answer that the urgency of the case would not allow of it. As it is, we have incurred delay, but in doing so we have secured an opportunity of explaining our position, which we should have lost in procedure by Ordinance. It is my firm belief that the Government of India occupies an infinitely stronger position in legislating, as it has done to-day, in open court, than if it had attempted to act summarily during the first shock of the tragedy of Mozufferpore.

There is one point which during our discussions in Executive Council I have impressed upon my Colleagues and which I will venture to repeat. Sir Harvey Adamson has already alluded to it. I look upon to-day's legislation as

*Explosive Substances and Newspapers Bills.*

exceptional, as framed to meet dangerous emergencies, and as regards the Newspaper Bill, to give powers to deal with a particular class of criminal printed matter. It is quite possible our Bills may not be strong enough, and in that case we shall not fail to amend them. But the Newspaper Bill in no way takes the place of a general Press Act, and it in no way ties our hands as to the future introduction of such an Act. In my opinion a further general control of the Press in India is imperatively necessary I believe it would be welcomed by the best Indian newspapers. *The Indian Nation* and *The Indian Mirror* have reviewed the present crisis in a tone which would do credit to the Press of any country. They have recognised the evil of unbridled journalistic freedom under Indian conditions,—conditions entirely different from those existing at home, where public opinion based on the teachings of centuries of constitutional government would be ever ready to refuse or to ridicule such unwholesome vapourings as are daily furnished to the people of India. India is not ripe for complete freedom of the Press. It is unfair upon her people that, for daily information, such as it is, they should be dependent upon unscrupulous caterers of literary poison. We are called upon to regulate its sale. No exaggerated respect for principles of English freedom, totally unadapted to Indian surroundings, can justify us in allowing the poison to work its will.

By some irony of fate, the outrages for which that poison is already so largely answerable have been sprung upon us almost upon the eve of the introduction of constitutional changes. I am determined that no anarchical crimes will for an instant deter me from endeavouring to meet as best I can the political aspirations of honest reformers, and I ask the people of India and all who have the future welfare of this country at heart to unite in the support of law and order, and to join in one common effort to eradicate a cowardly conspiracy from our midst.



JUBILEE OF THE LATE QUEEN VICTORIA'S  
PROCLAMATION. HIS MAJESTY THE  
KING-EMPEROR'S MESSAGE.

2nd Nov. 1908. [The 1st of November 1908 completed 50 years since the Government of India was taken over by the British Crown from the East India Company.

On this occasion, the Jubilee of that event, His Majesty the King-Emperor decided to send a message to his subjects in this country. The time was peculiarly suitable, owing to the unrest in India, and His Majesty's message was received with general satisfaction.

The time of the year was unfortunately the time of the annual move of the Government offices to Calcutta and the time of His Excellency's own departure on his autumn tour : so that the message could not be delivered by the Viceroy at either of the head-quarters of Government. But His Excellency decided to read the message at a public Darbar at Jodhpur, to which State the Viceroy was proceeding to invest His Highness the Maharaja with the insignia of K.C.S.I.

His Excellency arrived at Jodhpur on the evening of the 1st November, and on the morning of the 2nd, after having received a visit from the Maharaja, drove to the Darbar Hall to pay His Highness a return visit, to invest him with the K.C.S.I. insignia and to read His Majesty's message.

After certain presentations had been made to the Viceroy and the Maharaja had been invested, His Excellency rose to address the meeting and to read the King's message, and in doing so said :—

I have long promised to avail myself of your hospitable invitation to visit Jodhpur, and it so happens that in fulfilment of that promise I am your guest on the Anniversary of Queen Victoria's proclamation of 1858, an anniversary which will always be memorable in the annals of Indian History : and your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have been commanded by His Majesty the King-Emperor to deliver to-day a message to the Princes and people of India, which I will now proceed to read to you :—]

"1. It is now fifty years since Queen Victoria, my Beloved Mother, and my August Predecessor on the Throne of these Realms, for divers weighty reasons, with the advice and consent of Parliament, took upon herself the government of the territories theretofore administered by the East India Company. I deem this a fitting anniver-

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*Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria's Proclamation. His Majesty the King-Emperor's Message.*

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sary on which to greet the Princes and peoples of India, in commemoration of the exalted task then solemnly undertaken. Half a century is but a brief span in your long annals, yet this half century that ends to-day will stand amid the floods of your historic ages a far-shining landmark. The proclamation of the direct supremacy of the Crown sealed the unity of Indian government and opened a new era. The journey was arduous, and the advance may have sometimes seemed slow; but the incorporation of many strangely diversified communities, and of some three hundred millions of the human race, under British guidance and control, has proceeded steadfastly and without pause. We survey our labours of the past half century with clear gaze and good conscience.

"2. Difficulties such as attend all human rule in every age and place, have risen up from day to day. They have been faced by the servants of the British Crown with toil and courage and patience, with deep counsel and a resolution that has never faltered nor shaken. If errors have occurred, the Agents of my Government have spared no pains and no self-sacrifice to correct them: if abuses have been proved, vigorous hands have laboured to apply a remedy.

"3. No secret of empire can avert the scourge of drought and plague, but experienced administrators have done all that skill and devotion are capable of doing to mitigate those dire calamities of nature. For a longer period than was ever known in your land before, you have escaped the dire calamities of war within your borders. Internal peace has been unbroken.

"4. In the great Charter of 1858, Queen Victoria gave you noble assurance of her earnest desire to stimulate the peaceful industry of India, to promote works of public utility and improvement, and to administer the government for the benefit of all resident therein. The schemes that have been diligently framed and executed for promoting

*Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria's Proclamation. His Majesty the King-Emperor's Message.*

your material convenience and advance—schemes unsurpassed in their magnitude and their boldness—bear witness before the world to the zeal with which that benignant promise has been fulfilled.

“5. The rights and privileges of the Feudatory Princes and Ruling Chiefs have been respected, preserved, and guarded; and the loyalty of their allegiance has been unswerving. No man among my subjects has been favoured, molested, or disquieted, by reason of his religious belief or worship. All men have enjoyed protection of the law. The law itself has been administered without disrespect to creed or caste, or to usages and ideas rooted in your civilization; it has been simplified in form, and its machinery adjusted to the requirements of ancient communities slowly entering a new world.

“6. The charge confided to my Government concerns the destinies of countless multitudes of men now and for ages to come; and it is a paramount duty to repress with a stern arm guilty conspiracies that have no just cause and no serious aim. These conspiracies I know to be abhorrent to the loyal and faithful character of the vast hosts of my Indian subjects, and I will not suffer them to turn me aside from my task of building up the fabric of security and order.

“7. Unwilling that this historic anniversary should pass without some signal mark of royal clemency and grace, I have directed that, as was ordered on the memorable occasion of the Coronation Durbar in 1903, the sentences of persons whom our Courts have duly punished for offences against the law, should be remitted, or in various degrees reduced; and it is my wish that such wrongdoers may remain mindful of this act of mercy, and may conduct themselves without offence henceforth.

“8. Steps are being continuously taken towards obliterating distinctions of race as the test for access to posts

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*Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria's Proclamation. His Majesty the King-Emperor's Message.*

of public authority and power. In this path I confidently expect and intend the progress henceforward to be steadfast and sure, as education spreads, experience ripens, and the lessons of responsibility are well learned by the keen intelligence and apt capabilities of India.

"9. From the first, the principle of representative institutions began to be gradually introduced, and the time has come when in the judgment of my Viceroy and Governor-General and others of my counsellors, that principle may be prudently extended. Important classes among you, representing ideas that have been fostered and encouraged by British rule, claim equality of citizenship, and a greater share in legislation and government. The politic satisfaction of such a claim will strengthen, not impair, existing authority and power. Administration will be all the more efficient, if the officers who conduct it have greater opportunities of regular contact with those whom it affects, and with those who influence and reflect common opinion about it. I will not speak of the measures that are now being diligently framed for these objects. They will speedily be made known to you, and will, I am very confident, mark a notable stage in the beneficent progress of your affairs.

"10. I recognise the valour and fidelity of my Indian troops, and at the New Year I have ordered that opportunity should be taken to show in substantial form this, my high appreciation of their martial instincts, their splendid discipline, and their faithful readiness of service.

"11. The welfare of India was one of the objects dearest to the heart of Queen Victoria. By me, ever since my visit in 1875, the interests of India, its princes and peoples, have been watched with an affectionate solicitude that time cannot weaken. My dear son, the Prince of Wales, and the Princess of Wales, returned from their sojourn among you with warm attachment to your land, and true and earnest interest in its well-being and content. These

*State Banquet at Jodhpur.*

sincere feelings of active sympathy and hope for India on the part of my Royal House and line, only represent, and they do most truly represent, the deep and united will and purpose of the people of this Kingdom.

"12. May Divine protection and favour strengthen the wisdom and mutual good-will that are needed for the achievement of a task as glorious as was ever committed to rulers and subjects in any State or Empire of recorded time."

## STATE BANQUET AT JODHPUR.

2nd Nov. 1908. On the night of the 2nd November His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur entertained Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto at a State Banquet at which were present a large number of distinguished Europeans and Indians.

The Banquet was a brilliant success, and, in proposing Their Excellencies' health, the Maharaja spoke as follows :

"*Your Excellencies Ladies and Gentlemen*,—I cannot adequately express the joy and pride I feel in welcoming Your Excellency and the Countess of Minto to my capital. Your visit has been most auspicious in many ways. To me it has brought honour and the much coveted mark of Royal favour ; to my people it coincides with a record year of prosperity, and to my State it marks the happy condition of being practically free from debt. But it is not only I and my State that have profited. All the Princes and people of India have received a blessing in the gracious message from the King-Emperor which Your Excellency conveyed to them at my Darbar this morning, and I appreciate very deeply the good fortune which has given me and my nobles the great honour of hearing His Majesty's most generous and sympathetic Proclamation from Your Excellency's own lips. Many Viceroys have visited Jodhpur, but none under such favourable conditions as you, Sir, and I feel proud that the honour which was this morning done to me is no personal favour, but a recognition of the mere unswerving loyalty to the British Throne that has been and will always remain the dear and precious heritage of my House and people.

"I am glad my Imperial Service Lancers have given satisfaction to Your Excellency, and I shall always deem it an honour and the profoundest of privileges when their services can be utilised in support

*State Banquet at Jodhpur:*

of the British Throne. I know without a doubt that I am expressing the unanimous feeling of all the Native Rulers of this land, as also of all sane Indians who have the good of the country at heart, when I say that to India the British Raj has been a boon and an unmixed blessing. It has saved Rajputana from ruin and elevated India both morally and economically.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, as a Rajput I cannot miss this occasion of expressing my abhorrence and detestation at the useless and seditious movements to which His Majesty has graciously referred, and that have been effectively brought under control by Your Excellency's timely and much needed enactments, and by the enforcement of law and order with the strength and firmness that is the only remedy. Fortunately in a State like this we devote our energies to better ends than causing trouble. We have to grapple with the poverty of our natural resources and with all the many problems that arise in endeavouring to better the condition. It is most gratifying to me that Her Excellency, who takes so keen an interest in the welfare of the women of India, has been so very kind as to-day to visit the hospital known after the name of my father of beloved memory.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I now ask you to join me in drinking the health of my illustrious guests Their Excellencies the Viceroy and the Countess of Minto."

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows:—]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—The kind words in which you have proposed the health of Lady Minto and myself, the magnificence of the reception you have extended to us, and the hearty welcome of the people of your State will, I assure you, always remain very fresh in our memories.

I know that many of my predecessors have visited Jodhpur, but it has been my special good fortune to come here at a time of prosperity, when the steady development of your revenues in spite of bad years and the generous assistance of the Durbar in relieving famine has done much to ensure the happiness of your people. I congratulate Your Highness on ruling over a State which is now practically free from debt, and in which, notwithstanding the necessity of discharging heavy liabilities incurred

*State Banquet at Jodhpur.*

in the past, it has been possible to introduce administrative reforms, entailing of necessity further expenditure, but which an increasing revenue fully justifies. It is therefore, Your Highness, all the greater pleasure to me to have been able as the representative of the King-Emperor to celebrate your investiture to-day in the presence of your own feudatory Chiefs, and surrounded by your own people. I only wish that time had allowed me to see more of them, to make some personal acquaintance with the population over whom you rule.

I must congratulate Your Highness on your Imperial Service Lancers. It was a real pleasure to me to be present on parade this morning and to see for myself the efficiency of your two splendid regiments—to see good horses looking fit and well, ridden with the delightful ease and confidence of natural horsemen. You and your officers may be justly proud of the stuff of which these regiments are formed, the product of an ancient race of warriors whose descendants have so faithfully proved their readiness to serve the Empire in any part of the world—and Your Highness, whilst referring to your military organization, I am glad to have this opportunity of presenting to you six 9-pr. guns which I hope may prove a useful addition to your State's equipment.

Your Highness, speaking as a Rajput—and I know that you can justly speak too on behalf of the Hindu community, has expressed your abhorrence at the anarchical plots with which the Government of India have unfortunately had to deal. I assure Your Highness I am firmly convinced that abhorrence is shared by the vast majority of the people of India. I will never admit that they sympathise with the crimes which have been committed or with the plots which have been discovered.

I have had the honour to-day of delivering a message from the King-Emperor to the Princes and people of India, a message which I trust will sink deep into the hearts of

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*Lucknow Municipal Address.*

its vast population, a speech which asserts that the British Raj can be proud of its rule, that its aim has been and will continue to be the administration of justice tempered with firmness, and the furtherance of the prosperity and happiness of the people committed to its charge. And speaking for *myself* and for the Government of India, I can honestly say that recognising as we do that the spread of education and an increasing contact with the outer world has encouraged in India hopes and ambitions which it would be folly to disregard, we have laboured incessantly to submit to His Majesty's Government such proposals as have seemed to us best suited to the conditions with which we have had to deal. Those proposals are now before Lord Morley, and whatever the future may bring forth, the people of India may at any rate feel sure of his warm sympathy and support.

Your Highness, I am afraid I have somewhat wandered from the point, that I have forgotten that I am returning thanks for the toast of my health—I can only plead that feeling as I do that to-day has been a very memorable one I have been led somewhat off the track.

I can assure you Lady Minto and myself will never forget the cordiality of our welcome to Jodhpur and the magnificent hospitality you have yourself vouchsafed to us. Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in drinking the health of our hospitable host the Maharaja of Jodhpur.

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LUCKNOW MUNICIPAL ADDRESS.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy, Lady Minto, Lady Violet Elliot and staff arrived at Lucknow on the morning of the 19th November, where they were entertained as the guests of His Honour Sir John and Lady Hewett. The arrival was public. On alighting from the train His Excellency was greeted with a salute of 31 guns. His Honour and staff, Major-General Sclater and staff, Mr. Porter and Mr. Saunders, Commissioner of Lucknow, the leading Civilian and Military officers and the Talukdars of Oudh were present at the



*Lucknow Municipal Address.*

station to receive His Excellency. After shaking hands with the officials His Excellency inspected the Guards-of-Honour of the Oxfordshire Light Infantry with band and the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway Volunteers. His Excellency then entered the station hall, which had been most tastefully decorated with every kind of railway material from the engine downwards by the station staff, and received from the Hon. Rai Sri Ram Bahadur an address of welcome on behalf of the Municipality of Lucknow.

His Excellency the Viceroy, in reply, said :—]

*Gentlemen*,—It is, as you tell me, over two years since I last visited Lucknow, and I am glad to find myself again in your beautiful city and to receive the hospitable welcome your Municipality has for a second time extended to Lady Minto and myself. The two years which have passed over our heads have not been uneventful in the history of this province. You can be justly proud not only of the progress that has been made, but can look forward with confidence to the promises of the future, for the expenditure of public money has been wisely allotted for the public good. I trust that each succeeding year may bear ample testimony to the success of your endeavours by the growth of the important works to which you have referred, by improved sanitation and by the advance of education, especially that technical education upon which, to the best of my belief, the industrial success and the consequent comfort and happiness of the people of India so largely depends, and the development of which is so dear to the heart of your Lieutenant-Governor.

But, Gentlemen, in the midst of all the happy indications of future welfare, I cannot forget that the population of your province is only now emerging from a long period of scarcity and suffering. The story of every famine must always be a sad one, and the report of the famine relief recently issued by the Government of the United Provinces makes it easy enough to realize the intensity of the distress and the patience and fortitude with which it was met by your people in the cities and in the villages, but I am glad to say it does something more : it inspires the reader with a sincere admi-

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*Oudh Talukdars' Address, Lucknow.*

ration for the foresight, the vigilance and the ability which have consistently marked the administration of relief by the Local Government under the personal direction of Sir John Hewett. It bears witness to the splendid work done by the European and Indian staff of all grades under most trying conditions. It tells of the generous assistance so freely rendered by the non-official classes, and it affords an object lesson which goes far to show the extent to which disaster may be warded off and suffering mitigated by an efficient machinery. I hope your province may long be spared a recurrence of its recent troubles and that no cloud will overshadow the advancing prosperity of its people, of whose united loyalty and devotion to the King-Emperor I am well assured.

I thank you again, Gentlemen, for the kind words of your address and the cordiality of your welcome.

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OUDDH TALUKDARS' ADDRESS, LUCKNOW.

[While at Lucknow His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by 19th Nov. 1903 Lady Minto and Lady Violet Elliot and Sir John, Lady and Miss Hewett and party, attended a fête given by the Talukdars of Oudh at the Kaiser Bagh. As the National Anthem was played simultaneously the whole assembly rose, while Their Excellencies walked up to their seats on the dais. The Rajah of Balrampur read the address of welcome to His Excellency assuring him of their unswerving loyalty, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I well remember the magnificence of the reception extended to me by the Talukdars of Oudh within these historic walls on the occasion of my visit to Lucknow two years ago, and I rejoice in the opportunity which has enabled me for a second time to listen to their cordial words of welcome. I congratulate you on the general progress of your province and on an increasing prosperity, which will I hope soon obliterate the recollections of the trials through which your people have so

*Oudh Talukdars' Address, Lucknow.*

recently passed—trials which the foresight and energy of your Lieutenant-Governor have done so much to mitigate. Your Local Government has, I am aware, many important matters under its consideration, and I hope that the recommendations of the two Conferences which have already been held may go far to ensure the success of the objects for which they were assembled and which will have my hearty interest and support. The effects of the Act of 1869 to which you have alluded are not unknown to me, though as yet your Local Government's Bill has not been before me. But as I have told you when I have had the honour of addressing you before, I am myself a land-owner and can well appreciate the difficulties which mistaken legislation may impose upon both landlord and tenant, and you may rely upon my assistance in expediting any necessary measure. Gentlemen, as the representative of the King-Emperor it is very gratifying to me to receive your assurances of devotion to our Sovereign. I know full well how proudly you can vouch for the loyalty of the Talukdars. You have stood out manfully in troublous times for the maintenance of law and order and have done much during the last three years to stem the flow of the preachings of sedition into northern India. For 50 years Oudh has enjoyed the blessings of peace under the Crown, and you are determined that that peace shall not be disturbed. It is only the other day that on the anniversary of Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1858 I delivered a message from the King-Emperor to the Princes and peoples of India renewing the promises of that Proclamation and foreshadowing the grant of such reforms as the advance of education and the consequent growth of political ambitions would appear naturally to justify, and yet since the delivery of that gracious message, the law-abiding subjects of His Majesty have been horror-stricken by the commission of crimes which may well have raised doubts in many minds as to whether the present moment is opportune for the introduction of

*Oudh Talukdars' Address, Lucknow.*

broader political principles into the administration of the Indian Empire. I say at once that I do not share in these doubts. I refuse to admit that the murderous deeds of misguided fanatics should be allowed to blacken the reputation of a whole people or to dissipate their rising hopes. But at the same time I refuse to minimise in the slightest degree the dangers which confront us. We are face to face with a conspiracy which as long as it exists is a menace not only to personal safety but to public security, and which must inevitably cripple the industrial progress so all important for the future of this country. A poisonous seed has been sown in India hitherto foreign to its soil. It has grown into a noxious weed. We must dig it up and cast it out. The British Raj is determined, as it has ever been, to safeguard the populations committed to its charge. It is determined to shut the door in the face of a ruinous anarchy, and for the special difficulties with which it has to deal it will not hesitate to forge special weapons. The horrible crimes we lament have—if good can come out of evil—had one good effect—they have evoked protestations of devotion to the Throne from every creed and every race throughout India, and I would ask the loyal subjects of the King-Emperor to join hands in one united effort to eradicate the evil which is undermining the welfare of their country. With such an effort I know the Talukdars of Oudh will be in full sympathy.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for the kind words of your address and for your emphatic pronouncements on the great questions affecting the present history of India.

[His Excellency's speech created a profound impression on all present.

Afterwards the Talukdars, to the number of about a hundred, were presented to His Excellency.]

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## THE INDIAN CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

11th Dec. 1908. [Owing to the spread of anarchical crime during the year in Bengal and Eastern Bengal, the Government of India were faced with the necessity of introducing more stringent measures than the existing law allowed to deal with the situation. A series of attempts at train-wrecking, bomb-throwing, attempted murder, in some cases with serious injury, culminated on 7th November in the attempted assassination of Sir A. Fraser, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Public opinion was deeply stirred. Associations, Bodies, Trusts, and individuals alike addressed the Government condemning the outrages and asking that suitable action should be taken to deal with the class of crime which had gained such ascendancy. Special legislation was called for and European and Indian alike were insistent on strong measures being at once introduced.

A Bill in two parts was prepared, the first part containing the procedure for bringing cases to trial before a special Bench of the High Court without a jury, the second to deal with Associations. This Bill received the approval of the Secretary of State and was laid before the Governor General's Legislative Council on the 11th December. The Hon'ble Sir Harvey Adamson in his speech introducing the Bill explained at length the reasons for the action being taken and moved its passing at a single sitting. Some speeches strongly supporting the motion were made by Hon'ble Members including the Hon'ble Sir E. Baker. The Bill was passed into law without a dissentient voice, with the single exception of Dr. Rashbehari Ghose, and in closing the proceedings His Excellency the Viceroy spoke as follows :—]

My Hon'ble Colleague, Sir Harvey Adamson, has described so fully the chain of incidents which have led up to the present position that there is no need for me to recapitulate them. We should, however, bear in mind the true interpretation of the story he has told us. We should remember that for years the vapourings of a seditious press have been disseminating the seeds which are now bearing fruit, and that following in the wake of inflammatory newspaper articles we have had the speeches of revolutionary agitators, and the consequent deplorable misguidance of the youth of the country culminating in the commission of senseless outrages and brutal crimes.

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*The Indian Criminal Law Amendment Bill.*

No one has hoped more sincerely than I have that the existing laws of the land might have proved sufficient to deal with the difficulties which have surrounded us, but it has not been so, and the exceptional legislation we have already passed, though productive of good results, was not framed to meet the danger which now confronts us. The Maniktollah Garden discoveries, followed by the attempt on the life of Sir Andrew Fraser, and the murder of the Police Inspector, have opened a new chapter in the history of sedition. They have taken us far beyond treasonable pamphlets and revolutionary speeches, they have shown us the results of those preachings, and are laying bare before us the workings of a murderous conspiracy,—a widespread conspiracy,—recruited from the ranks of emotional young men saturated with grotesque ideas of political freedom. Horrible as it all is, I confess to some feeling of commiseration for these infatuated boys—for many of them are little more than that—blindly ruining their own future and the happiness of their home surroundings.

But there it is. The Government of India have this conspiracy to deal with. We know its acknowledged aims, the systematic assassination of Government officials which is to discredit our administration, and expel the British Raj from India, and notwithstanding the wicked absurdity of such schemes, we cannot disregard the fact that personal and public security are dangerously threatened, and that we are imperatively called upon to protect the public safety, and to subdue the indications of an increasing lawlessness.

My Hon'ble Colleague, Dr. Rashbehari Ghose, has taken exception to certain clauses in the Bill and to our procedure in attempting to pass it in a single sitting. I am always very ready to treat the opinion of my Hon'ble Colleague with respect; indeed I look to his sage advice and to his influence with his fellow-countrymen to assist.

*The Indian Criminal Law Amendment Bill.*

us largely in the solution of the political problems of the future. But when I am told that the position is not one of such emergency as to justify a departure from recognised routine in the introduction of new legislation, and that further opportunity should be given for constitutional discussion, and for the expressions of public opinion, I must refuse to agree. Public opinion, European and Indian, has spoken out freely from every part of the country, and has officially and privately declared to me that the existing insecurity can no longer be tolerated, and that the Government of India must be more efficiently armed. With that opinion I am in entire accord. This is not a time to ponder further over the details of legislative machinery. There is nothing to justify a demand for further deliberations as to the action which the Government of India is now called upon to take.

There are other reasons, too, for which I have been anxious that the Bill which we are about to pass should immediately become law. We are on the eve of the announcement by the Secretary of State of reforms which have long been foreshadowed, and I should be sorry to see that announcement immediately followed by exceptional criminal legislation such as that with which we have to-day been dealing. I cannot agree with my Hon'ble Colleague, Dr. Ghose, that we should first promulgate our reforms, and then proceed to deal with anarchical crime. I should prefer to feel that the stern measures which the unfortunate necessities of the moment have forced upon us, have been completed before any announcement of reforms is made, and that having done our best for the maintenance of law and order we can proceed with a free hand to discuss the development of the future. The success of that future must be based not only upon the united efforts and co-operation of British and Indian administrators, but on the good sense of the Indian community. Upon its active assistance at the present moment much depends,

*Presentation of Colours to the 17th Infantry, the Loyal Regiment,  
at Barrackpore.*

and I would earnestly ask the members of every race, of every caste and of every creed to unite in one common effort to put an end to the dark plots and apprehensions of hidden danger which are crippling the daily life of the people. I would ask them to assist the Government of India in removing the causes which have so unfortunately necessitated to-day's legislation.

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PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE 17TH  
INFANTRY, THE LOYAL REGIMENT,  
AT BARRACKPORE.

[In connection with its Jubilee, His Excellency the Viceroy presented new colours to the Regiment on Sunday last, and this brought the celebrations to a close. The officers extended themselves for the occasion, and invitations were issued to all the messes in and around Calcutta and Barrackpore. A special train was run in the afternoon and took up a large number of guests from Calcutta. The ceremony was timed to commence at 4 P.M., and long before that hour a large number of ladies and gentlemen assembled on the parade ground of the Regiment, where the Regiment was drawn up in excellent trim and commanded much admiration. A little before the time, Lady Violet Elliot arrived, and shortly after came His Excellency and Lady Minto, followed by Lady Baker and Miss Baker.

Their Excellencies motored to the ground and took up their position under a small shamiana reserved for them, surrounded by His Excellency's staff. On each side the guests were assembled, and behind Their Excellencies were assembled the retired officers, who attracted great attention, some of them being grey-headed veterans. After the National Anthem and Royal Salute had greeted the arrival of His Excellency, the solemn and doleful duty of trooping the old colours was performed aided by the band and followed by a company of the Regiment. The old colours were trooped in customary fashion, the solemnity of the occasion being increased by the slow-march and the playing of "Auld Lang Syne." The standard-bearers with the new colours and the drummers of the Regiment then approached, and the drums were piled and the new colours placed on them. The Regiment meanwhile formed three sides of a square. His Excellency



*Presentation of Colours to the 17th Infantry, the Loyal Regiment, at Barrackpore.*

and staff and the Lord Bishop and two ministers then advanced, and the Lord Bishop then read the service, blessing the new colours. The colours were then handed to the Viceroy, who presented them to the standard-bearers.

His Excellency then addressed the Regiment, saying :—]

*Colonel Denne, Officers and Soldiers of the Loyal Regiment*,—It is a great pleasure to me to be present at to-day's ceremony and to present new colours to your distinguished Corps, all the more so because I cannot but think that Barrackpore being the country seat of the Viceroy, he ought to take every opportunity he can of associating himself with the troops in the station. It is now just 50 years since the regiment was formed at Phillour in 1858, when India was passing through a period of terrible trial and when, for the faithful services rendered by the companies of which the regiment was composed, it gained for itself the well-deserved title of the Loyal Purbeah Regiment. Since then there have been some changes in your composition and some slight alterations in your title, and now as the Loyal Regiment of to-day you can look back proudly to a regimental history full of good service always well and bravely performed in many parts of the world. It was in 1877 that you received the colours which have been so long cherished by the Regiment, and I know that these I present to you to-day will be guarded with the same devotion, the same courage and the same loyalty to the King-Emperor.

[Colonel Denne then approached, and dismounting, thanked His Excellency in the following strain :—“ Your Excellency, in the name of the whole Regiment, I thank you for the honour you have this day conferred upon us by presenting our new colours. As Your Excellency is aware, the title of Loyal was conferred upon the Regiment some 50 years ago for faithful and devoted conduct during troublous times. Faithful it has ever remained, and I can assure Your Excellency that no more Loyal Regiment exists to-day than that now standing before you. Under the old colours which we are now sorrowfully parting with it has done good service, and under the new so

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*Councils Reforms.*

graciously bestowed may it do still better and ever remain, in peace as in war, faithful and victorious. May I again express our heartfelt thanks and on behalf of the whole Regiment wish both Your Excellencies and your family long life, prosperity and success in all your undertakings."

The National Anthem was played once more, and His Excellency and staff with the Lord Bishop returned to the shamiana. The Regiment then marched past, His Excellency taking the salute. The ceremony was then over and while the Regiment marched back to barracks, Colonel Denne presented the officers, both British and Native, to His Excellency.]

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### COUNCILS REFORMS.

['[The reforms proposed by the Government of India and accepted 18th Dec. 1902. by the Secretary of State were announced by Lord Morley in the House of Lords on Thursday, the 17th December, and the despatches to and from the Secretary of State on the subject were published in the newspapers on Friday, the 18th idem. At a meeting of the Legislative Council to transact ordinary business His Excellency the Viceroy took the opportunity to refer to the matter, and said as follows:—]

I would like to say a few words before we adjourn. Hon'ble Members are aware that the Secretary of State yesterday laid before Parliament the papers connected with administrative reforms in India. Amongst them are two very memorable documents—the Despatch from the Government of India to the Secretary of State of the 1st October last and the Secretary of State's reply of 27th November—which we have just received. The recommendations we submitted to him had for two years been before us, and I cannot sufficiently express to my Colleagues my appreciation of the ability and constant thought they devoted to the great questions with which they had to deal. The Secretary of State has considered our suggestions with the generous statesmanship upon which we well knew we could rely, and it is gratifying to us to

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*Address from Deputation of Noblemen and Gentlemen in Bengal.*

recognise that he is in almost entire accord with proposals emanating from India.

There is no occasion to-day to enter upon any consideration of the details of the correspondence I have referred to—they will undoubtedly be amply discussed, not only officially, but by the public in India, and whatever verdict that public may pass upon them, I hope that we may assume that we are about to enter upon a new administrative era, based upon a recognition of the advance of political thought and the justness of many political ambitions. I hope that with the dawn of this new era, the recollection of the dark days through which we have been passing may disappear. The future is largely in the hands of the people of India and their leaders—it rests with the latter to assist us to dispel the results of anarchical political fanaticism, it rests with the people themselves to welcome an honest attempt to ameliorate the administration of their country. It is to the leaders of Indian political aims and to the people of India whose aspirations they direct that we must look for that support which can alone secure the success of the reforms we are about to inaugurate.

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ADDRESS FROM DEPUTATION OF NOBLEMEN AND  
GENTLEMEN IN BENGAL.

24th Dec. 1890. [A very large and influential Indian deputation numbering nearly one hundred members and representing all sections of the community in both Bengals waited on His Excellency the Viceroy at Government House on the 24th December to present an address in connection with the new reforms. At eleven o'clock the deputation, which was headed by the Maharaja of Darbhanga, assembled in the Throne Room and a few minutes later Lord Minto and his personal staff entered and took their seats.

The Maharaja of Darbhanga then read the following address:—

*"May it please Your Lordship,—We beg to approach Your Excellency on behalf of our countrymen, to express our gratitude to*

*Address from Deputation of Noblemen and Gentlemen in Bengal.*

the Government for the great step it has taken in associating us with the administration of the country. It is a step worthy of the noble traditions of the Government which has given us liberty of thought and speech, high education and local self-government. We feel that it is the first instalment of reforms which are yet in store for us, and which will be introduced with the growing capacity and fitness of our people, and will give them a definite and effective voice in the government of their country. We greatly appreciate the high motives and lofty purposes which have inspired Your Excellency's Government in recommending these reforms. Executive authority is not weakened, but strengthened, by associating the people in the work of government and by their loyalty and gratitude evoked by a generous and noble concession. We especially admire the firmness of Your Excellency's Government in refusing to be diverted from this beneficent scheme of reform by incidents which we all deplore and deeply condemn. Your Excellency was pleased to observe at the Council meeting on Friday last that the future is largely in the hands of the people of India and their leaders, and Your Excellency was pleased to appeal to them to assist Your Excellency's Government to welcome an earnest attempt to ameliorate the administration of their country. We desire to respond to this appeal with gratitude and enthusiasm. We realise our responsibilities in this matter, and beg to assure Your Excellency that no effort will be spared by us to help to ensure the successful working of the great scheme with which Your Excellency's name will be unperishingly associated, and upon which we believe the future of the country will so largely depend.

"In conclusion we desire to express the hope that Your Excellency will continue to preside over the administration of Indian affairs until full effect has been given to the scheme which you have worked to formulate. We beg that Your Excellency will convey our respectful homage to His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor and that you will receive for yourself and communicate to the Secretary of State the expression of our deep gratitude for a concession which, to quote the felicitous language of Your Excellency, makes the dawn of a new era in the history of this country."

The address, which was engraved in black on white satin with a red border, was enclosed in a beautiful silver casket heavily tasselled with gold and handed by the Maharaja to the Viceroy.

His Excellency the Viceroy replied as follows:—]

*Gentlemen*,—The words of your address are very welcome to me. Your deputation is markedly representative

*Address from Deputation of Noblemen and Gentlemen in Bengal.*

of those factors of the community which must always, and especially at the present moment, go far to direct the public opinion of your fellow-countrymen.

I see before me Members of the Legislative Councils of two provinces, great territorial magnates and ardent political thinkers, and I realise the deep meaning of their presence here to-day. Their appreciation of the scheme of reforms which the Secretary of State has announced is deeply gratifying to myself and to my Government. You remind me that at the last meeting of my Legislative Council I asserted my belief that the political future is largely in the hands of the people of India and their leaders. I have often made that assertion. So much depends on the acceptance of that belief that I hope you will forgive my reiteration of it. You have told me to-day that you recognise its truth, that you accept the responsibilities which it entails, and that you look forward to assisting the Government of India in their efforts to ameliorate the administration of your country.

Gentlemen, no more momentous assurance has ever been offered to any Viceroy.

Your words have struck the keynote of that sympathetic and mutual understanding upon which so much depends.

We have many difficulties in front of us, difficulties which are not likely to decrease as years go on, but which, full of trouble as they may be, are but the natural result of much that is good. We are reaping the fruits of education and the consequent growth of knowledge and ideas. But the fruit must have time to ripen—we must not attempt to force it—and we must be prepared with all our strength to see that it is not utterly destroyed by the storms from which it is our duty to shelter it.

I look to you, Gentlemen, to stand by the Government of India in the stress of those storms. I trust to you to recognise that, though, as in the history of every country, the duties of governing may require an iron hand,

*Address from Deputation of Noblemen and Gentlemen in Bengal.*

the ultimate aim of the administrators of India will continue to be, as it has ever been, the welfare of the people.

I cannot tell you, Gentlemen, with what renewed hope I have heard from you to-day that I may look to you as fellow-workers in furthering the success of that scheme to which the Government of India has for some years devoted much earnest labour. I thank you sincerely for your appreciation of the share I have had in that work, and I will convey to the Secretary of State the expression of your gratitude for the realisation of those reforms which he has been so anxious that the people of India should receive. It will be my pleasing duty to submit to His Majesty the King-Emperor the loyal message with which you have entrusted me.

*Names of those who signed the Address.*

1. The Hon'ble Babu Jogendra Chandra Ghose.
2. " " Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan.
3. " " Babu Deva Prasad Sarbadhikari.
4. " " Babu Radha Charan Pal.
5. " " The Nawab of Dacca.
6. " " Rai Sita Nath Ray, Bahadur.
7. Mr. A. Chowdhury.
8. Babu Bhupendranath Bose.
9. Rai Narendranath Sen, Bahadur.
10. Maharaja Manindra Chandra Nandi, of Cossimbazar.
11. Raja Ranajit Sinha Bahadur, of Nashipur.
12. Maharaja Sir Prodyot Kumar Tagore.
13. Sir Chandra Madhab Ghose.
14. Maharaj-Kumar Hrishikesh Law.
15. Nawab Syad Ameer Hussain.
16. Sir Gurudas Banerji.
17. Mr. Surendranath Banerji.
18. Prince Mahomed Bakhtyar Shah.
19. Raja Peary Mohan Mookerji.
20. Nawab Abdul Rahman.
21. N. N. Ghose, Esq.
22. Babu Sarada Charan Mitter.
23. Maharaj-Kumar Sailendra Krishna.

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*Address from Deputation of Noblemen and Gentlemen in Bengal.*

24. Jogendranath Mukerji.
25. Prafulla Kumar Tagore.
26. Babu Gaganendranath Tagore.
27. Kumar Saratchander Singh.
28. Kumar Manmathanath Roy Chowdhury, of Santosh.
29. Khan Bahadur Badruddin Hyder.
30. Dr. Rash Behary Ghose.
31. Babu Charu Charan Mullick.
32. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
33. Rai Jatindranath Chowdhury, of Taki.
34. Babu Murlidhar Roy Chowdhury.
35. Babu Jankinath Roy.
36. Raja Srinath Roy.
37. Kumar Girindra Narain Dev.
38. H. Ghaznavi.
39. Khan Bahadur Serajul Islam.
40. Babu Pramathanath Mullick.
41. Babu Matilal Ghosh.
42. The Hon'ble Maharaja of Darbhanga.
43. Maharaj Kumar Gopal Lal Roy.
44. R. H. M. Rustomjee, C.I.E.
45. R. D. Mehta, C.I.E.
46. Babu Chandra Narayan Singh.
47. Raja Bijoy Singh Dhudharia.
48. Rai Badri Das Bahadur.
49. Rai Bahadur Hariram Goenka.
50. Babu Chandra Sekhar Prosad Singh.
51. Rai Bahadur Lalit Mohan Sinha Roy.
52. Babu Krishna Dass Law.
53. Shams-ul-Ulama Maulvi Ataur Rahman.
54. Jnan Sankar Sen, M.R.A.S.
55. Aga Abbas Ali.
56. J. Ghosal, Esq.
57. Syed Erfan Ali.
58. Mahommed Bauker Ali Khan.
59. Babu Ramendra Nath Roy, of Bhowal.
60. Kumar Kshitindra Deb Rai Mahasai, of Bansbaria.
61. Prince Afsar-ul-Muluk.
62. M. Y. Gauhar Ali, Bar.-at-Law.
63. Abu A. Ghuznavi.
64. Dr. Al Mamun Sahrwardy, Bar.-at-Law.
65. Satish Chandra Pal Chowdhry.
66. Mirza Hasheru Ispahani.

*Address from Deputation of Noblemen and Gentlemen in Bengal.*

67. Babu Upendra Nath Bose.
68. Syed Hossein Shoostri.
69. M. Abdul Aziz.
70. Babu Somanath Bhadury.
71. „ Baikuntha Nath Basu.
72. „ Dwarka Nath Singh.
73. „ Gyanada Prasanna Mukherji.
74. „ Jaladhi C. Mukherji.
75. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Syed Mahommed.

*Names of those who approved the Address but who were unable to sign it owing to absence from Calcutta.*

1. The Hon'ble The Nawab of Murshidabad.
2. „ „ Babu Kali Pada Ghosh.
3. „ „ Rai Kishori Lal Gosain, Bahadur.
4. „ „ Babu Gajadhar Prasad.
5. „ „ Maharaja Girija Nath Ray, Bahadur.
6. „ „ Rai Dulal Chandra Deb, Bahadur.
7. „ „ Maulvi Sayad Nawab Ali Chaudhri, Khan Bahadur.
8. Mr. Madhusudan Dass.
9. Maharaja Nattore.
10. Raja Binayakrishna Deb.
11. Maharaja Gidhour.
12. Raja Dighapatia.
13. B. Chakarbatty, Esq.
14. Dwarkanath Chuckerbutty.
15. Babu Nand Kishor Lal.
16. „ Dwarka Parshad.
17. Maharaj-Kumar Sashikanta Acharya.
18. The Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha.
19. Mr. Ghulam Husain Arif.
20. Mr. P. L. Roy.
21. Babu Ganesh Chunder Chunder.
22. Rai Raj Kumar Sarbadhikari.
23. „ Pranshankar Rai Chowdri.
24. Babu Parbati Shankar Roy Chowdhury.
25. A. Rusool.
26. Khan Bahadur Mohamed Yusuf.
27. Prince Golam Mohamed.
28. Babu Nagendra Mullick.
29. Nawab M. N. Mirza, Saheb Bahadur, of Murshidabad.
30. Prince Akram Hussain.



*The Italy Earthquake Relief Fund.*

31. Dr. Nilrattan Sircar, M.D.
32. Kumar Manmatha Nath Mitter.
33. Kumar of Paikpara.
34. Mr. Satyendranath Tagore, I.C.S. (Retired).
35. Khan Bahadur Abdul Jubbar, C.I.E.
36. Khan Bahadur Serferez Husain Khan.
37. Mr. Syed Ali Emam.
38. Mr. S. Sinha.
39. Babu Bindeshwari Prashad Singh.
40. Nawab Sayid Abdus Subhan Chaudhari, of Bogra.
41. Babu Krishna Sahaya.

## THE ITALY EARTHQUAKE RELIEF FUND.

5th Jan. 1909 [A meeting was held in the Throne Room at Government House on Tuesday evening for the purpose of raising a fund to help the sufferers in the recent earthquake in South Italy and Sicily. His Excellency the Viceroy presided and there was a large and representative gathering. Among those present were: His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Francis Maclean, the Hon'ble Sir Erle Richards, the Metropolitan, Sir D. Hamilton, Sir Charles Allen, the Hon'ble Mr. Miller, the Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan, Maharaja Sir Prodyot Kumar Tagore, Sir Gurudas Banerjee, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harington, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mookerjee, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dass, the Hon'ble Mr. A. A. Apcar, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharfuddin, Mr. R. W. Carlyle, the Hon'ble Mr. Oldham, the Hon'ble Babu Radha Charan Pal, the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha, Mr. Sarada Charan Mitter, Raja Benoy Krishna Dev, Mr. A. Ahmed, Raja Gopendra Krishna Dev, Raja of Mahisadal, Raja of Bhowal, Raja of Nashipur, Nawab Syed Amir Hussain, Raja Peary Mohan Mookerjee, the Hon'ble Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Nawab Saiyed Mohamed, the Hon'ble Babu Jogendra Chandra Ghose, Rai Bahadur Narendra Nath Sen, Babu Mati Lal Ghose, Rai Bahadur Hari Ram Goenka, Khan Bahadur Moulvi Serajul Islam, Mr. Shirley Tremearne, Mr. Phelps, and Mr. R. H. M. Rustomjee.

Before the proceedings commenced His Excellency the Viceroy, in briefly explaining the objects of the meeting, said :—]

*Gentlemen,*—The appalling catastrophe which has happened in Calabria and Sicily has sent a thrill of horror

*The Italy Earthquake Relief Fund.*

through the whole civilised world, and I feel that I am only giving expression to a very general wish in asking you to meet me to-day to give some evidence of the sympathy of India with the overwhelming grief of the people of Italy. I feel sure that all who are here will anxiously desire to do everything in their power to further the assistance which is so sadly needed. Unfortunately we in India are not unacquainted with the terrors of earthquakes and their stories of disaster and sorrow, but the stupendous calamity which has almost obliterated the populations of Reggio and Messina is unparalleled in the history of those awful upheavals of the earth, and we have from day to day been hearing an ever-increasing tale of woe, whilst the latest telegram that I have seen tells us that many of our fellow-countrymen have perished in the general ruin. I need say no more, but I think, Gentlemen, we should at once appoint an Executive Committee to consider in what manner subscriptions can best be collected to alleviate the misery of the people in whose grief we so deeply share.

[His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor then moved a resolution for the appointment of an Executive Committee. In doing so he said :—

*“My Lord,—*I do not think that many words are necessary from me in moving the resolution which stands in my name. I am certain that every one here present shares the feelings to which Your Excellency has given such eloquent expression : feelings of profound compassion and sympathy for the unhappy sufferers in this great calamity, and a heartfelt desire to render to the survivors such help as may be in our power. Throughout the civilised world people of almost every nationality are hastening to contribute towards the relief of those who have suffered so terribly : and India—which knows only too well what horrors are summed up in the word earthquake : India, which not unoften has had occasion to be grateful for timely help rendered from across the seas in the hour of her own need—India will not be backward in the good cause.

“I beg to propose that an Executive Committee be formed to raise subscriptions for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake in the Straits of Messina, and to take such other measures as may

*The Italy Earthquake Relief Fund.*

be appropriate to express the sympathy which the people of India feel for the people of Italy. I suggest that the Hon'ble Sir Francis Maclean, Chief Justice of Bengal, whose great experience in the organization of public and international charity has never been called upon in vain, be invited to be Chairman of the Committee, and that the following gentlemen, 33 in number, be requested to lend their services as members :—

"The Most Revd. the Metropolitan, the Hon'ble Major-General C. H. Scott, C.B., R.A., the Hon'ble Mr. F. A. Slacke, C.S.I., the Hon'ble Mr. F. W. Duke, I.C.S., the Hon'ble the Maharaja Bahadur of Darbhanga, the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, the Hon'ble Maharajahdiraj Bahadur of Burdwan, the Hon'ble the Nawab Bahadur of Dacca, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashutosh Mukherjee, the Hon'ble Mr. A. A. Apcar, C.S.I., the Hon'ble Mr. F. A. Larmour, the Hon'ble Babu Radha Charan Pal, the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha, Sir H. H. Risley, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., Sir Charles Allen, Kt., Surgeon-General Sir G. Bomford, K.C.I.E., Brigadier-General J. S. Cowans, M.V.O., F. L. Halliday, Esq., C.I.E., M.V.O., Sir Daniel Hamilton, Kt., Maharaja Sir Prodyot Kumar Tagore, the Maharaja of Cossimbazar, Raja Bijoy Singh Dhudharia (Marwari), Lockhart Smith, Esq., P. Warren, Esq. (Dy. Secy., Bank of Bengal), Herbert Sparkes, Esq., Nawab Syed Amir Hussain, C.I.E., Babu Bhupendranath Basu, the Revd. A. Van de Mergel, S.J., R. N. Mukherjee, Esq., C.I.E. (Martin and Co.), W. Garth, Esq., Bar-at-Law, J. S. Harris, Esq., Master of the Trades Association, Lala Hari Ram Goenka (Marwari), Dr. Koilash Chandra Bose, Rai Bahadur."

The Hon'ble the Maharajahdiraj of Burdwan said :—

"*My Lord*,—I have much pleasure in seconding the motion just put before us by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and I am sure that we Indians will come forward and give a quiet help to our suffering brethren of Italy."

Sir D. Hamilton said :—

"*Your Excellency*,—The motion before us hardly needs support. A hundred thousand dead speak more eloquently than any stranger can on behalf of those whom they have left behind, and when other nations are responding so promptly to their call, India should not lag behind. I have no doubt the mercantile and all other classes of the community who are able to do so will gladly respond to the appeal which Your Excellency is sending out, but I may be allowed to remark that, compared with other countries, the number of people whom the appeal is likely to reach, or who can afford to contribute, is small, and

*The Italy Earthquake Relief Fund.*

I would therefore suggest that if the amount forthcoming does not correspond with the help given by other countries, Government should follow the lead given by others, and contribute something from the Imperial Exchequer. I know that the people of India are poor and require all their money, but a lakh of rupees divided among two or three hundred millions of people would not be felt by them individually, and I think the Indian gentlemen present will bear me out when I say that the people of India would in this case regard such a contribution as a work of merit. A high officer of State the other evening remarked to me that India was the biggest thing in the world, and I agree with him. We ought, therefore, to see that India's contribution is in keeping with her dignity. Of course if the hands of Government are tied I should not like to press the matter, but when other nations, in their corporate capacity, are assisting with money, food and warships, I should like, if possible, to see India also, in her corporate capacity, take her place with others at the side of this deep Italian grave. I have great pleasure, Your Excellency and Gentlemen, in supporting the motion now before us."

His Lordship the Metropolitan said that of the urgency and need of this matter there was no doubt.

The Hon'ble Babu Radha Charan Pal also spoke strongly in support of the movement.

The Hon'ble the Nawab of Dacca was also to have spoken, but as he was unavoidably absent his speech, strongly supporting the scheme, was read by Nawab Saiyed Mahomed.

In conclusion His Excellency said :—]

My duty has been a very melancholy one, but I felt that I would be quite right in summoning this meeting. I am sure it has been very necessary that we should give vent to some expression of our feelings. I may say that subscriptions are already flowing in and that something over Rs. 21,000 have already been received. I should like to read this telegram I have just received from Sir C. S. Bailey, the Resident at Hyderabad :—

"The Nizam, who has lately had sad experience of a somewhat similar catastrophe in his own capital, has read with very sincere regret the appalling accounts in the newspapers of the loss of life and distress caused by the recent earthquake in Italy, and feels deeply for the sufferers in that country. His Highness has desired me to telegraph requesting Your Excellency kindly to convey to His Majesty the King and the people of Italy an expression of his profound

*Opening of New Wing of Calcutta High Court.*

sympathy with them in their great misfortune. The Minister has been directed to send me £500 as His Highness' contribution towards the relief of the sufferers."

I intend to telegraph to the Secretary of State asking him to inform the King of Italy of the meeting we have held to-day and of the expression of sympathy of the whole of the people of India.

[With a vote of thanks to the chair, moved by the Hon'ble Mr. A. A. Apcar and seconded by Rai Hari Ram Goenka Bahadur, the meeting terminated.]

## OPENING OF NEW WING OF CALCUTTA HIGH COURT.

9th Jan. 1909. [On Saturday, the recently completed additional wing of the Calcutta High Court Buildings was formally opened by the Viceroy in the presence of a very large and representative gathering of ladies and gentlemen. The majority of the company were, of course, members of the legal profession, but the sombre tones of their professional garb were considerably brightened by the brilliant military and other uniforms which were to be seen at intervals in the building. The ladies attending the ceremony were accommodated with seats in the corridors surrounding the new civil Court-room, where the ceremony took place.

Of the distinguished guests, the first to arrive was the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal (Sir Edward Baker) who arrived at the Judges' private entrance, where he was met by the Registrar of the Appellate Side, by whom he was conducted to his place in the new building, adjoining the seat reserved for Lady Minto.

Lady Minto, accompanied by her daughters, the Ladies Eileen and Violet Elliot, and an A.-D.-C. arrived about noon at the gate of the new building in Old Post Office Street, and was there met by the Registrar of the Original Side, who conducted the party to their seats to the right of the Bench.

The other guests were ushered to their seats by Mr. T. J. Waite, Private Secretary to the Chief Justice.

Shortly before His Excellency and staff were due to arrive, the Chief Justice and Judges, all of whom wore their robes and wigs, assembled in the Chief Justice's room, whence they proceeded to the top of the staircase at the main entrance to the Court on the Esplanade. Here they were joined by the Advocate-General, the Sheriff,

*Opening of New Wing of Calcutta High Court.*

the Government Solicitor, the Senior Government Pleader and the Registrars.

When His Excellency arrived he was met at the main entrance by His Lordship the Chief Justice, who conducted the Viceroy up the staircase, at the top of which he presented the Judges, the Law Officers of the Crown, and the officials mentioned.

A procession was then formed, and the company proceeded by way of the public corridor to the civil Court-room, the corridor being carpeted with red felt. The procession was headed by six chobdars, behind whom walked alone the Sheriff (Sir Prodyot Kumar Tagore), followed by the two Registrars, the Senior Government Pleader, the Government Solicitor, and the Advocate-General. Behind the Orb, Mace and Sword of Justice, the Judges walked in pairs as follow:—Mr. Justice Richardson and Mr. Justice Ryves; Mr. Justice Dass and Mr. Justice Carnduff; Mr. Justice Cox and Mr. Justice Sharfuddin; Mr. Justice Fletcher and Mr. Justice Chitty; Mr. Justice Holmwood and Mr. Justice Caspersz; Mr. Justice Mukerjee and Mr. Justice Stephen; Mr. Justice Brett and Mr. Justice Harington. The Chief Justice preceded the Viceroy, both walking alone, and the Staff of His Excellency ended the procession.

The company rose as the procession entered and remained standing until the Chief Justice had conducted the Viceroy to the Throne on the Bench, and the Judges had taken their places around it.

The Chief Justice then read an address from the Judges which was beautifully illuminated and contained in an exceedingly massive and ornate silver casket, suitably inscribed. The address was in the following terms:—

“To His Excellency the Right Hon’ble Gilbert John Elliot, Earl of Minto, P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., G.C.M.G., Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

“*May it please Your Excellency*,—We, the Chief Justice and Judges of His Majesty’s High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, ask permission to offer to your Excellency, as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor, an expression of our loyal devotion to His Majesty’s person and throne, and of our very grateful thanks for the part which your Excellency has been pleased to take in the proceedings of to-day.

“This is the first occasion, so far as our records show—and they go back for a period of nearly 150 years—of a ceremony of a nature similar to the present. It is, therefore, a matter of deep congratulation to ourselves that your Excellency has consented to open these

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*Opening of New Wing of Calcutta High Court.*

new Courts, which will, we trust, prove of substantial public utility and convenient to suitors and to those whose duty it is to assist in the administration of justice.

"The building comprises two Court-rooms, and, amongst others, rooms for the Sheriff, Jurymen, Witnesses, the Police and the Press, a Record room with all the newest appliances, and offices for several of the staff on the Original Side of the Court. It will prove a great relief to the present overcrowded state of the old building of the High Court. We have to thank your Excellency's Government, and also that of the Province of Bengal, for the readiness with which sanction has been accorded to the proposal for the improvements to the building.

"We venture to think that in point of antiquity of jurisdiction—Civil Criminal, Admiralty, and Ecclesiastical—and of the vast population subject to that jurisdiction, there is no Court in the British Empire, outside the confines of the British Isles, which can compare with this High Court, the descendant, as it were, of the old Supreme Court, created in 1774, and of the Sudder Dewany Adawlut and of the Sudder Nizamut Adawlut. It is almost superfluous to refer to the large increase of work both on the Original and on the Appellate Sides since 1862, when the High Court was established, and to the probable necessity of a permanent increase in the number of Judges.

"Your Excellency, by your presence here to-day, has signally evinced your personal interest in the administration of Justice in India, Justice which has to be and is administered in the name of His Majesty the King-Emperor. It is, we venture to think, only befitting that these Courts should be dedicated to their future use by the representative of that Sovereign whose noblest prerogatives are justice and mercy, and from whom all Judicial jurisdiction within the British Dominions is derived. The Judges of this Court, to whom from time to time His Majesty entrusts the administration of Justice, have honestly endeavoured in the past, as they will, we are confident, endeavour in the future, to fulfil the grave and most responsible duties so entrusted to them, with fidelity to the Throne, with zeal for the public service, with firmness, with strict impartiality and in a spirit of complete independence. Appreciating as we do the absolute faith which the people of this Great Dependency have in the administration of British Justice and fully alive to the responsibility of not destroying or in any wise impairing that unbounded confidence, we most earnestly hope that we and our successors may be enabled to do our duty within these walls, that the law which we administer may prove deterrent to the evil-doer and strength and support to

*Opening of New Wing of Calcutta High Court.*

those who have the right on their side, and that the unblemished reputation of British Justice may always be preserved, not only in these Provinces but throughout the length and breadth of India."

Having presented the address, the Chief Justice invited His Excellency to formally open the new buildings.

In complying with this request His Excellency said :—]

*Chief Justice*,—As the representative of the King-Emperor, I thank you for the address you have presented to me on behalf of the Judges of His Majesty's High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal, and I am grateful to you for the opportunity you have afforded me of being present at to-day's proceedings. You tell me that no such ceremony as that which we are assembled to celebrate is mentioned in your records. I realise the significance of the occasion, and hope that the Courts you have asked me to open to-day will fully meet the growing necessities of the public, as well as the professional convenience of those whose careers are devoted to the administration of justice.

The Government of India has been well aware of the overcrowded condition of the High Court buildings, and together with the Provinces of Bengal has readily recognised the wisdom of your demand for increased accommodation. It is not a new demand, for your records extend over many years, and an ever-widening jurisdiction over a dense population has repeatedly called for the enlargement of your Courts and the rearrangement of legal machinery. It is curious to look back upon your ancestors—I do not refer to the ancestors of the Judges, but of the High Court—the old Sudder Courts and the Supreme Court, from the union of which the High Court of to-day is descended, to look back to the days when Sir Elijah Impey was Chief Justice and the old Supreme Court sate at a building in Dalhousie Square, I believe on the site now occupied by St. Andrew's Church, and of which we are told that "the physical surroundings were not favourable to a command of the judicial virtues which it was so desirable to have in hand." It is



*Opening of New Wing of Calcutta High Court.*

pleasant to think that the judicial virtues of to-day will have no such excuse in the midst of the architectural beauties of their commodious modern abode. But notwithstanding crowding and discomfort, the early days of the Courts were full of historical interest, of romantic trials of which we have all read, and incidents enlivened at times by a perhaps somewhat belligerent attitude towards the Court of Directors. But those times have passed by, and I hope that the presence of the Viceroy on this occasion will tend still further to weld together the high administration of justice with the general administration of the Government of India. It is upon British justice that the people of India rely, it is the administration of that justice which we are so imperatively called upon to safeguard, and we need no assurance that the Judges of this Court will do their duty with the same sense of responsibility and the same distinguished ability as their many brilliant predecessors. And may I venture to say that the pleasure I feel in taking part in this ceremony is much enhanced by the fact that I have received the address of the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court from the hands of an old friend, who has for many years presided over their deliberations with such marked devotion to duty.

Chief Justice, I have great pleasure in declaring these Courts open.

[The Chief Justice then presented to His Excellency addresses on behalf of the Bar, the Vakils' Association and the Incorporated Law Society of Calcutta, each being contained in a handsome case.

The address from the Bar was signed by the Advocate-General on behalf of all the members, and was in the following terms :

*"May it please Your Excellency,*—We, the Members of the English Bar enrolled as Advocates of the High Court of Calcutta, beg respectfully to be allowed to join in welcoming your Excellency on this auspicious occasion, and in thanking your Excellency for consenting to open this New Branch of the High Court Building.

*"The grave inconveniences which have long been felt not only by the Bar and the Officials, but also by Jurymen, visitors, and witnesses owing to the want of room on the Original Side of the High Court*

*Opening of New Wing of Calcutta High Court.*

will now, it is hoped, be completely removed, and we heartily thank your Excellency's Government for the relief which this new extension will undoubtedly afford in this direction. We earnestly trust, moreover, that following upon the most welcome addition which has now also been made to the Courts available for the administration of Justice, there may be granted in the near future that much-needed increase in the judicial strength of the High Court which the ever-growing burden of legal business renders so urgently necessary.

"In conclusion, we desire, my Lord, to be permitted to avail ourselves of this opportunity to assure your Excellency, and through your Excellency His Majesty the King-Emperor, of the depth and sincerity of those feelings of loyal devotion and attachment to the Crown which the members of our profession have at all times steadfastly cherished and maintained."

The address of the Incorporated Law Society of Calcutta was as follows:—

"To His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Earl of Minto, P.C., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., G.C.M.G., Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

"*May it please Your Excellency*,—We, the President, Committee and Members of the Incorporated Law Society of Calcutta on this occasion of opening the newly-completed wing of the Calcutta High Court, desire to approach your Excellency for the purpose of dutifully expressing our loyalty and devotion towards His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor. In so doing we may aptly invoke the golden principle that British Rule in India is broad-based and must be maintained on British Justice, and record the fact that Indian High Courts are the bulwark thereof and the chief sources whence British Justice is dispensed fearlessly and impartially without respect to persons.

"We venture to interpret Your Excellency's very presence amongst us as an official recognition of that principle and of that fact so greatly cherished by all communities of the King-Emperor's Indian subjects.

"Although this is not the time, nor is it the place, to do more than make passing reference to recent legislative enactments for the suppression of anarchy and crime, yet we seek your Excellency's permission to state that the Laws recently enacted in that behalf are received with unqualified satisfaction by our Society, not the least part of such our satisfaction being due to the constitution of the Tribunal (consisting as it does of three Judges of the High Court) that has been appointed for trials in case of need, which we earnestly trust may never arise,

*Marriage of Lady Violet Elliot.*

"With the assurance of our unswerving loyalty to the Throne and person of the King-Emperor, we have the honour to subscribe ourselves, etc."

The address of the Vakils' Association expressed the satisfaction of the signatories at the relief which the new wing would afford, and the consequent removal of many inconveniences.

His Excellency in a word returned his thanks for the addresses which had been presented to him.

Accompanied by the Chief Justice, the Lieutenant-Governor, the Judges, and the Members of the Viceroy's Council who were present, Their Excellencies proceeded by way of the north corridor, and visited the Judges' Library and the other Courts, leaving the building by the main entrance, from which the Lieutenant-Governor also took his departure.]

## MARRIAGE OF LADY VIOLET ELLIOT.

PRESENTATIONS FROM CALCUTTA CORPORATION  
AND CALCUTTA TRADES ASSOCIATION.

12th Jan. 1909. [Deputations waited upon Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto and Lady Violet Elliot at Government House on Tuesday afternoon, the 12th January, to make presentations to Lady Violet Elliot on the occasion of her approaching wedding. The first represented the Calcutta Municipal Corporation and the other the Calcutta Trades Association.

## THE CORPORATION.

The Calcutta Corporation made their presentation at 4 P.M. The deputation comprised Sir Charles Allen, Mr. Phelps, Khan Bahadur Moulvi Budderuddin Hyder, Prince Bukhtiar Shah, Khan Bahadur Moulvi Sirajul Islam, Mr. J. Ghosal, Kumar Dinendro Narain Roy, Babu Preo Nath Mullick and Mr. P. N. Mookerjee (Secretary).

Sir Charles Allen in presenting the wedding gift, which was a handsome silver vase, said :—

"*May it please Your Excellencies,*—We have been deputed by the Calcutta Corporation to convey to Your Excellencies the congratulations and best wishes of the Municipal Commissioners upon the occasion of the approaching wedding of Lady Violet Elliot, an event fraught with peculiar interest to this city. Your Excellency's family

*Marriage of Lady Violet Elliot.*

is already united to India by the closest ties, and as the author of the Reform Scheme Your Excellency will take your place in the roll of fame which already contains the names of the first Lord Minto and of Alexander Elliot. The connection of Your Excellency's family with India was strengthened by Lady Ruby's marriage to the son of Lord Cromer, who won his spurs in this country, and we take this opportunity of congratulating Your Excellencies on the birth of a grandchild as the fruit of that union. And a fresh link will now be added by the alliance of Lady Violet Elliot to the son of Lord Lansdowne, whose beneficent rule we remember with gratitude, and whose brilliant subsequent career we watch with pride. Lady Lansdowne's name is a household word in India where her services to her Indian sisters will never be forgotten, and where her name is inscribed with that of Your Excellency in the golden list of Vicereines who have striven with such splendid success to relieve human suffering. In the alliance between two families which have rendered such signal services to India the citizens of Calcutta cannot but take a deep and personal interest, and we fervently pray that every blessing may rest upon this union which is about to be solemnised under such happy auspices.

"Lady Violet Elliot, we take the liberty of asking you to accept this wedding gift, and do most sincerely hope that your married life will be attended by every blessing and every happiness."

Lady Violet Elliot briefly thanked the deputation for the presentation.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Sir Charles Allen*,—I hope you will tell the Municipal Commissioners how sincerely Lady Minto and I appreciate the kind words you have said on their behalf. I assure you I do not at all like losing my daughter, but the loss is alleviated by all the pleasant things you have said.

It is a great pleasure to us to feel that by her marriage we shall become so closely connected with the family of Lord and Lady Lansdowne who are remembered here with so much affection and respect. You have reminded me how much my own family history is bound up with India.

In my boyhood I used to be fascinated by stories of India and recollections and traditions of the life of my ancestors in this country, to which I hope the marriage of my daughter at its capital city will now all the more closely unite us.

*Marriage of Lady Violet Elliot.*

I assure you, Sir Charles Allen, that Lady Minto and I will always cherish very warm recollections of the cordial words you have addressed to us on behalf of the citizens of Calcutta.

[After shaking hands with each member of the deputation Their Excellencies and Lady Violet Elliot retired and the deputation withdrew.]

## THE TRADES ASSOCIATION.

[Half an hour after this the deputation of the Calcutta Trades Association waited upon Their Excellencies and Lady Violet Elliot. The deputation comprised Mr. J. S. Harris (Master); Mr. C. F. Larmour (Past Master); Mr. W. Smith (Past Master); Mr. W. T. Spink (Past Master); Mr. Frank Harrison (Past Master); and Mr. E. G. Hickie (Secretary).]

In presenting the wedding gift, which took the shape of a silver centrepiece, Mr. Harris said :

*"Your Excellencies and Lady Violet Elliot,*—On behalf of the members of the Calcutta Trades Association, I have the honour, Lady Violet Elliot, to ask your acceptance of this piece of plate as a wedding gift on the occasion of your approaching marriage, and with the gift to offer our sincere congratulations to yourself and to Lord Charles Fitzmaurice.

"I desire also to convey our congratulations to Your Excellencies on the coming happy event, and to assure you of the gratification it has afforded us to be permitted to make this presentation."

Lady Violet Elliot in a very few words thanked the deputation.

His Excellency the Viceroy in reply said :—]

*Mr. Harris and Gentlemen,*—On behalf of Her Excellency and Lady Violet Elliot I thank you very much for the kind words you have said. It is a very great pleasure to us to see you here and to admire the beautiful present the Trades Association of Calcutta has presented to our daughter. She will, I know, always treasure it in recollection of your kindness and the very many happy days she has spent in your city.

[After shaking hands with those present Their Excellencies and Lady Violet Elliot retired and the deputation withdrew.]

## DEBATE ON THE BUDGET, 1909-10.

[On the 22nd March 1909, the Hon'ble Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson 29th Mar. 1909. introduced and explained the Financial Statement. The Budget showed a deficit, but no fresh taxation was imposed. The usual debate took place in the Throne Room at Government House on Monday, the 29th, when almost all members spoke. His Excellency Lord Kitchener, who would vacate office before the next Budget Debate came round, reviewed at length his term of office.

His Excellency the Viceroy, in closing the proceedings, spoke as follows :—]

My Hon'ble Colleague, Sir G. Fleetwood Wilson, has assumed charge of his high office at a period of grave anxiety in the history of Indian finance, at a moment requiring the most careful consideration of existing economic conditions, together with an unexaggerated forecast of the probabilities and possibilities affecting the future revenues of India. I venture to congratulate him on the clearness with which he has explained the position which confronts us. Till some two years ago a continued prosperity and ever-increasing surpluses may perhaps have rendered us pardonably forgetful of the insecurity of our sources of revenue till the rude awakening of 1907 brought us face to face with those climatic conditions which from time immemorial have so often been the cause of cruel want and suffering. There was a failure of the monsoon—a failure conveying perhaps little meaning to the well-fed Western world, but full of sad forebodings to the teeming population of the plains of India.

We closed the financial year 1907-1908 with but a small margin to our credit; and, notwithstanding the fairly favourable monsoon of 1908, we were called upon to meet serious demands on behalf of famine relief, whilst later in the year malarial fever accompanied by a heavy mortality went far to incapacitate the populations of Northern India for the agricultural work upon which their every-day welfare depends.

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In addition to these troubles my Hon'ble Colleague has told us how a great depression in trade has weighed not only upon India but upon the world in general, our railways consequently suffering from an immense diminution in those imports and exports from the distribution of which they to a great extent derive their revenues. It is very disappointing to be told that, for the first time since 1898-99, our railway system has been worked at a loss to the State, still more so to admit the necessity for a reduction of 2½ millions of expenditure on our railway programme upon which we believe the development and consequent prosperity and happiness of the people of this country so largely depend. Yet, recognising the policy which has hitherto directed the administration of our Indian railways, I cannot think that even the increased development we aspire to would have justified a railway expenditure undoubtedly entailing increased taxation as its immediate consequence. We have had to decide between a choice of evils, and my Hon'ble Colleague has to the best of my belief advised us to follow the safest course. Moreover, we must remember that, though famine, sickness, depression in trade, and loss of railway revenue are the most evident evils with which we have been called to deal, a number of other causes to which my Hon'ble Colleague has alluded have combined to diminish the receipts upon which at the commencement of the last financial year it appeared that we could reasonably rely; that the country is generally poorer not only in respect to revenue, but as to individual wealth, than it was at the time of our big surpluses; and that it has become all the more incumbent upon us to avoid increasing present unavoidable burdens even for the sake of the attractive promises of future development.

We are called upon to face the financial position as it stands to-day.

My Hon'ble Colleague has carefully analysed it for us. He tells us, naturally enough, that with a deficit of over

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£3½ millions we must not be optimistic, but that, with conditions which it is not unreasonable to anticipate, there is no sufficient cause for pessimism. We must earnestly hope that those conditions will be fulfilled. The most rigid economy is necessarily demanded, not only from the Government of India, but from Local Governments, who have readily and loyally appreciated our difficulties, and I confess that the sacrifices necessarily entailed upon them are exceptionally hard—implying, as they must, the discontinuance or postponement of many useful public works, when possibly the stress of approaching poverty may not have been at first so evident to them as to the Government of India.

We must hope for better times, and the Hon'ble Mr. Miller has told us that, though the agricultural outlook is not as bright as it might be, it is not discouraging, and that with a single good season we may look forward to a rapid return to prosperity. Certainly we have experienced many misfortunes, but amongst them we have at any rate one consolation—the plague has been much less severe than in past years. We are, however, in no way relaxing our efforts to cope with it—strenuous efforts to combat it in accordance with the best teachings of science are still maintained; and though these efforts may not entirely account for the decrease in mortality, it seems probable that they have largely contributed to it. But though there has been a diminution in plague, the serious outbreak of malaria, to which I have already alluded, was the cause of much misery in the Punjab, in the United Provinces, and in the city of Bombay, in coping with which, as well as with plague, our medical officers have been indefatigable in their labours. Much has been done, too, by scientific research, and we may congratulate ourselves in possessing in the Indian Medical Service officers who, in scientific investigation, competence, and enthusiasm, have few equals in any country in the world.



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His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief has given us an account of his stewardship for the 6½ years during which he has held his high command. I am sure I am only voicing the opinions of my colleagues in telling him that we have listened to the story of his military administration not only with deep interest, but with a sincere appreciation of his work and its results. It is no disparagement to his many brilliant predecessors to say that he has evolved from the factors of a somewhat scattered mass of splendid fighting material an Army complete in its component parts. The crippling centralisation, which must in bygone days have well-nigh broken the hearts of overworked officers, he has dispersed amongst his divisional Commanders; in fact, the key to his organisation has been the perfection of a system in which the responsibility for the efficiency of each division in all its branches should rest with the General Officer Commanding it—a responsibility which that officer must again himself demand from the Brigadiers and regimental Commanders under him.

It has been Lord Kitchener's object so to distribute these divisions throughout India, as to facilitate either their mobilisation for a great campaign, or their capacity to furnish at short notice flying columns for some frontier expedition, or to meet sudden demands for internal defence. Notwithstanding much ignorant criticism both as to the intentions of this redistribution, and the manner in which it has been carried out, the objects in view have been ably fulfilled. At the same time a very great deal has been done to bring military equipment, in the broadest sense of the word, up to date, to better the pay and allowances of the Native ranks of the Indian Army, and to improve the position of its British officers.

But in addition to the creation and distribution of military machinery, which the Commander-in-Chief has explained to us, there is the greater question of the future policy which is to direct the high administration of the Army. With

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the abolition of the Supply Department so well presided over by General Scott, whose personal services this Council will much regret to lose, the last traces of dual military control and dual advice to the Viceroy will disappear, and Lord Kitchener will be the first Commander-in-Chief to unite entirely in himself the command of the Army and the administration of the Army Department. I have no intention of going over the weary arguments for or against a system which has now become obsolete, but it may not be out of place for me to say a few words on the one really vital question affecting a prolonged dispute. Will the new system of Army administration ensure for the Government of India the necessary constitutional control over the Commander-in-Chief? I unhesitatingly assert, after an experience of some years of the results of the transfer to the Commander-in-Chief of the powers and much of the work of the Military Member, that the change of system, whilst giving him wider administrative authority, has materially detracted from his independence of action. I can understand the apprehensions of my predecessors as to their want of control over him, for though the proposals of a Commander-in-Chief may often have been checked by the interference of the Military Member, the former was in many matters free to act on his own initiative, there was no direct channel of communication whatever between him and the Viceroy, there was no Secretary to Government answerable to the Viceroy for a clear explanation of the Commander-in-Chief's views. The post of Secretary to the Army Department will now always be held by a distinguished General Officer, on the same footing as a Secretary to Government in every other department—fully entitled to differ with the head of his department, and with free access to the Viceroy.

Again as to military finance,—for the careful supervision of which we have to thank Lord Kitchener,—a full acquaintance with any extravagant expenditure proposed

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by a Commander-in-Chief is much more directly and promptly available to the Viceroy and the Government of India than in the days of the Military Member, for the Secretary to the Military branch of the Finance Department is Joint Secretary to the Finance Department itself, with the same access to the Viceroy and the same powers as any other Secretary to Government. I believe therefore that the higher administration of the Army has now been placed on a constitutionally safe and thoroughly sound footing, and that the Government of India will do wisely in following Lord Kitchener's advice to safeguard the continuity of that military policy which he has done so much to inaugurate.

But all of us assembled here to-day must, I am sure, feel that, great as has been the change in the conduct of military affairs, it is small in comparison with the amelioration of long-established systems of administration, the possibility and advisability of which have for the last few years called for the most careful consideration of the Government of India.

This is the last Budget Debate, the last meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council, which will take place in this hall in accordance with the procedure which has been in existence since the Councils Act of 1892 came into force. At the close of the Budget Debate of last year I expressed a hope that, when this Council next assembled, measures would have been adopted by His Majesty's Government which would go "far to meet the aspirations of those who have the welfare of the Indian people at heart." Those measures have been fully discussed by the public in India and in England and are now passing through the last stages of Parliamentary criticism—the fulfilment of my hopes for their success must depend largely on the spirit in which they are finally received by the people of India and upon the honest endeavours of Indian political leaders to further the objects for which they have been framed. But we

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cannot conceal from ourselves that the origin of those measures, and the conditions which they were intended to meet, have, to a great extent, been lost sight of, or misrepresented. Attractive side-issues have arisen and have eclipsed the main objects the first framers of the reform scheme had in view, and the fact that they were the first framers of that scheme has either been buried in oblivion, or their action has been attributed to ignoble concession to unlawful agitation, or to unjustifiable nervousness.

A true conception of what has been the attitude of the Government of India throughout the history of these reforms is of such immense public importance in respect to the qualifications of that Government to administer the affairs of India, that I will venture to quote to my colleagues the words I made use of in replying to the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale in the spring of 1907. I said—

“I recognise with him that politically India is in a transition state; that new and just aspirations are springing up amongst its people, which the ruling power must be prepared not only to meet but to assist. A change is rapidly passing over the land, and we cannot afford to dally. And to my mind nothing would be more unfortunate for India than that the Government of India should fail to recognise the signs of the times. I have deemed it all-important that the initiation of possible reforms should emanate from us. I have felt that nothing would be more mischievous to British administration in India in the future than a belief that its Government had acted on no conviction of their own, but simply in submission to agitation in this country and in accordance with instructions conveyed to them from home. If there has been misconception as to this, I hope I may be allowed this opportunity of correcting it. The story, as far as I can tell it at present, is simply this—That last autumn I appointed a Committee of my Council to consider the possibility of a development of administrative machinery in accordance with the new conditions we were called upon

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to face. That Committee's report was considered by my Council and a despatch expressing the views of my colleagues and myself has been forwarded to the Secretary of State. What I would impress upon you is that this move in advance has emanated entirely from the Government of India."

That is what I said two years ago, and I repeat it again to-day all the more strongly. The material from which the Bill now before Parliament has been manufactured was supplied from the Secretariats of Simla, and emanated entirely from the bureaucracy of the Government of India. The deliberations and correspondence of which the Bill now before Parliament is the result commenced over 2½ years ago. It was in August 1906 that I drew the attention of my Council in a confidential Minute to the change which was so rapidly affecting the political atmosphere of India, bringing with it questions which we could not afford to ignore, and which we must attempt to answer, pointing out that it was "all-important that the initiative should emanate from us, that the Government of India should not be put in the position of appearing to have its hands forced by agitation in this country or by pressure from home, that we should be the first to recognize surrounding conditions and to place before His Majesty's Government the opinions which personal experience and a close touch with the everyday life of India entitle us to hold." I consequently appointed the Arundel Committee. That minute was the first seed of our reforms, sown more than a year before the first anarchist outrage had sent a thrill of shocked surprise throughout India by the attempt to wreck Sir Andrew Fraser's train in December 1907. The policy of the Government of India in respect to reforms has emanated from a mature consideration of political and social conditions, whilst the administrative changes they have advocated, far from being concessions wrung from them, have been over and over again endangered

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by the commission of outrages which could not but encourage doubts as to the opportuneness of the introduction of political changes, but which I have steadfastly refused to allow to injure the political welfare of the loyal masses of India. As to the reforms themselves, putting aside points which have from time to time formed part of our proposals but have been in no way vital to them, the original pith of our scheme was the enlargement of the Imperial and Legislative Councils on a basis of wider representation of the most stable elements constituting the populations of India—and in a popular sense, I mean in respect to the effect such enlargement of representation will have on the people of this country, that is still the most important point in the changes about to be introduced. I have no intention of embarking this afternoon upon any expression of opinion as to the intricate machinery the creation of such representation may require, but I have listened with pleasure to the broad-minded remarks with which my Hon'ble Colleague Mr. Gokhale approached the peculiar necessities of representation in this country. My Hon'ble Colleague also alluded to the opposition Clause III of the Reforms Bill has met with at home. I need only say that the Government of India fully recognise the effect the enlarged Councils must have in the future position of Lieutenant-Governors and the transaction of the increasingly heavy duties that will be imposed upon them, and are in full accord with the Secretary of State as to the necessity of the powers the clause confers.

My Hon'ble Colleagues will I know join with me in the regret with which I realize that the term of office of the Hon'ble Sir Erle Richards is about to come to a close. He has filled that office with marked distinction, and we shall miss the able assistance and advice upon which we have so long relied.

His Majesty the King, on the recommendation of the Secretary of State, has selected the Hon'ble Mr. Sinha to

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succeed Sir Erle Richards. I extend to him a hearty welcome, in which his many friends will share, on his appointment to my Executive Council to a post for which his great attainments, his professional ability, and the high public esteem in which he is held have pre-eminently qualified him.

The Hon'ble the Nawab has reminded me of the deputation which addressed me on the 24th of last December. I shall always look upon that occasion as one of the most memorable of my career in India. The moment was one of great anxiety when it had for long been impossible to say what the immediate future might bring forth, and when the reassuring words I listened to were exceptionally full of meaning—all the more so because they were spoken, as the Hon'ble Nawab has told us, with a thorough honesty of purpose by men who, though they might differ from each other on many points, were prepared on behalf of their countrymen to recognize not only the promises of a new political future, but the responsibilities which it must entail.

It is upon the recognition of those responsibilities by the leaders of Indian thought, it is upon the political tolerance which it rests with them to encourage amidst a diversity of interests and beliefs, that the happiness of the future of India so largely depends.

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### ADDRESS FROM AMRITSAR MUNICIPALITY.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto and Staff left 1st Apr. 1909. Calcutta on Tuesday, the 30th March, for Lahore. On the way to the latter place a stay of a few hours was made at Amritsar to allow of Their Excellencies visiting the Golden Temple, the Khalsa College and certain other places of interest. On arrival at the railway station His Excellency was presented with an address of welcome by the Amritsar Municipality. This was printed on satin and enclosed in an ivory box and was read by Khawaja Yusuf Shah, Khan Bahadur. His Excellency replied as follows:—]

*Gentlemen*,—I am very glad to have this opportunity of meeting the members of the Municipal Committee of Amritsar, and I hope you will express to your fellow-citizens my sincere appreciation for the warm welcome they have extended towards me to-day. I have long looked forward to visiting your ancient city, the holy place of the Sikhs, celebrated for its traditions of their loyalty and gallantry on the field of battle.

But Amritsar is not only full of the historic memories of a warlike race—it is also one of the great trade centres of the Punjab—and I congratulate you on the evidence I see on all sides of a thriving and increasing prosperity.

I heard with sincere sympathy of the severe epidemic of malarial fever from which your city suffered so severely last autumn, and I am glad to know that that terrible evil has now disappeared and that you have every reason to be grateful for the health of the population.

Your Committee has justly earned for itself a reputation for energy and a devoted interest to all that concerns municipal administration, and I am well aware how during the ravages of last year's sickness they and the residents of Amritsar laboured for the relief of the sufferers.

I know your Municipality is doing much for sanitary administration, and I am delighted to hear that you have secured the services of an excellent Health Officer in Dr. Dhingra. I earnestly hope that your city may be spared from further trials.



*Address from Lahore Municipality.*

Amongst many other improvements which you are undertaking I understand that a project is under consideration for harnessing the waters of the Bari Doab Canal, which, if it is successfully carried out, will, I trust, not only do much to protect your people against agricultural failure, but prove a source of great increased manufacturing development.

You have indeed, Gentlemen, every reason to look forward to a promising future for Amritsar, and I heartily thank you again for the cordial welcome you have extended to Lady Minto and myself on this our first visit to your beautiful city.

## ADDRESS FROM THE LAHORE MUNICIPALITY.

1st Apr. 1909. [The Viceroy and Lady Minto were greeted at Lahore on their arrival on Thursday afternoon in a manner worthy of the capital of the Punjab—worthy of a city of considerable antiquity and glorious traditions. The welcome, of which the outward and visible signs are the handsome and costly decorations that bedeck the quaint streets of the native town and the beautiful roads of the civil lines, was spontaneous and unanimous. All classes of the community—official, non-official and Indian—combined to pay honour to the representative of the King-Emperor who had come to visit Lahore for a few days. The Reception Committee, organised at a meeting held some weeks ago under the chairmanship of Sir D. P. Masson, had carried out its work with great credit and thoroughness, and the results of its labours are to be seen and admired in the wealth of flags and bunting that everywhere decorates the “ancient and historic city.” On the other hand, private individuals, Government offices, and many firms and shopkeepers each added their quota to the feast of colour that met the eye on any of the main thoroughfares. Most trouble and expense had been taken at and around the railway station. The railway staff had produced a beautiful effect, having expended all their resources in ornamenting a building which is first of all sternly practical, and therefore lending itself with difficulty to effective display, and everyone was delighted with the rich and tasteful decorative design that had been carried out on the arrival platform and within the station vestibule. Flags, bunting

*Address from Lahore Municipality.*

and plants had been arranged with striking effectiveness. Outside the station was the Reception Hall, where practically every resident of Lahore had assembled to hear the Municipal Address of Welcome read and His Excellency's reply. Huge cloths of various colours and flags were stretched across high overhead to form a gorgeous canopy which billowed gracefully to the cooling breeze as it swept through the crowded hall. Three sides of the hall were open; the fourth behind the dais on which the Viceroy, Lady Minto, Lady Eileen Elliot, the Lieutenant-Governor, Miss Dane, and their staffs took their seats, was filled in with *purdahs*, draperies and flags, glowing with many deep colours, a magnificent example of true Oriental decoration. The whole scene as the assembly rose while His Excellency mounted to the throne was one which will linger long in the imaginations of those who were privileged to be present. Outside a hot Eastern sun in a sky of deep unclouded blue; within, the hall framed in those resplendent colours which make Indian functions so gorgeous to the eye, an expectant assembly of Europeans and Indians—the former in their handsome civil and military uniforms and the latter in the multi-hued costumes and bejewelled robes which they assume on State occasions; while the bright gay dresses of the ladies showed up in relief against the heavier and more sombre Indian colours. In the open space around the hall and in front of the portico of the railway station were arranged bodies of the regular troops and the various volunteer corps, while to one side, standing impressively mute, their huge bodies bedecked with cloths of gold and many colours, a row of elephants looked down on this magnificent array, silently flicking their large ears and occasionally uplifting their trunks with a questioning gesture.

When the train had halted His Excellency was received at the railway station on alighting from his carriage by Sir Louis Dane, Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, the General Officer Commanding the Lahore Division and the high officials of the Civil and Military Departments. A salute was fired from the fort as the train entered the station and a guard-of-honour of the South Lancashire Regiment and of the North-Western Railway Volunteers drawn up on the platform received His Excellency with a royal salute as he alighted. While the Viceroy was inspecting the guard-of-honour a procession was formed in the vestibule of the station headed by the Inspector-General of Police, and the Deputy Commissioner of Lahore, who were followed by the other officers present in the order of seniority. The Viceroy, accompanied by the Countess of Minto, and conducted by the Lieutenant-Governor, and preceded by the procession and his personal staff, then

*Address from Lahore Municipality.*

proceeded to the Reception Hall outside the station. The band played a march as His Excellency advanced and then played the National Anthem as he reached the dais in the hall. At the same time a guard-of-honour of the 1st Punjab Volunteer Rifles in front of the Reception Hall gave a royal salute. All present remained standing until His Excellency had taken his seat.

The Deputy Commissioner then brought forward the Municipal Committee, and the following address of welcome was read by the Vice-President, Lala Milki Ram :—

We, the members of the Municipality of Lahore, on behalf of ourselves and of the citizens of Lahore, beg leave to present Your Excellency with this humble address, and to offer to you and Her Excellency Lady Minto a hearty welcome to our ancient and historic city.

The last occasion of Viceregal advent to this city was in the autumn of 1905, when His Excellency Lord Curzon paid a farewell visit shortly before resigning the Viceregal sceptre into Your Excellency's hands.

This being the first visit which the demands of other parts of the Empire have permitted Your Excellency to make to Lahore, we sincerely trust that Your Excellency will receive and carry away an agreeable first impression, assuring you that this is our loyal and earnest desire.

Your Excellency visits Lahore at a time of expansion, which, rapidly increasing in recent years, has transformed the appearance of the environs of the city to a surprising degree. In this there has been mingled official and private enterprise; for while fine new public buildings and offices have sprung up in the heart of the Civil Lines, and while the Railway Colony and Factories have extended enormously, the suburbs of the city have expanded in every direction so that the extra-mural residential area under municipal control is now vastly greater than it was even only a very few years ago.

This expansion has to a great extent been due in its private aspect to the visitation of plague in the city which occurred in recent years, and which caused a desire for residence under healthier conditions than are possible within the highly congested intra-mural area of the city proper. Fortunately the city has since the said visitation been generally free from plague, but the expansion of Lahore, once so markedly commenced, is likely to continue, and we believe that the time has nearly arrived when the urban and rural administration will prove too onerous a charge not to be placed in separate hands.

*Address from Lahore Municipality.*

The greater the expansion is, the greater becomes the demand upon municipal effort and resources, and there are schemes of conservancy and drainage called for which will tax alike the finances and energies of the Municipality to the utmost, entailing the raising of a considerable loan. In these schemes we trust that we may hope for some provincial grant-in-aid, looking to the fact that provincial interests are so much bound up with the Municipality as the capital of the province.

We gratefully acknowledge a recent grant of the Local Government towards conservancy improvements, the abnormally heavy monsoon last year having caused an epidemic of malaria which greatly emphasised the need for better sanitation in the city. This has been sympathetically recognised by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor not only by the grant aforesaid, but by the appointment of a special Committee to consider the means of conservancy best suited to the town, and, as we are grateful to believe, by his intention to provisionally appoint a Health Officer to the charge of sanitation within municipal limits.

Unfortunately the copious rains of last year did not result in a harvest plentiful enough to reduce the market rates for food grains, and this Municipality is not alone in viewing with concern the continuance of unprecedentedly high prices, to relieve the distress caused by which a charitable fund was opened for the poor in the city last summer, in the hope, unfortunately unfulfilled, that prices would cheapen in the autumn.

This city has, like other cities in India, watched with great interest the progress of the reform schemes which have been engaging the attention of Your Excellency in Council, and await with confidence their result, fully believing that Your Excellency has at heart the fulfilment of those legitimate aspirations of the educated classes in this country which, while they embrace a steadfast loyalty to the Throne of His Majesty the King-Emperor (whom God preserve), admit of reasonable desire for political progress at one and the same time.

We desire to convey to Her Excellency Lady Minto our sincere appreciation of the sympathetic interest constantly evinced by Her Excellency in the material and intellectual welfare of the women of India and our appreciation of her many generous labours in connection with associations for the alleviation of distress and suffering.

We will now conclude by again offering Your Excellencies a respectful and hearty welcome to this city.

The address was presented in a handsome silver casket, the work of the well-known jewellers, Messrs. Cooke and Kelvey. The casket

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*Address from Lahore Municipality.*

is about 15 inches long, plain, with beaded edge; two tigers' heads, holding silver rings in their mouths, form the handles, and it bears the following inscription on the front panel :—" Presented by the Municipal Committee of Lahore to His Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Minto, P.C., G.C.M.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., Viceroy and Governor-General of India, on the occasion of his visit to Lahore in the year 1909 A.D."

The casket was received by His Excellency from the hands of Sardar Muhammad Ali Khan, Kazalbash, Junior Vice-President.

The address was engrossed on vellum and surrounding it was a floral border of chaste design, surmounted by an etched vignette of the Badshai Mosque in Lahore City. The border itself was executed in garter-blue and gold and within the border was an interlacing of the national emblems—the rose, the shamrock, the thistle and the lotus flower. The whole formed a beautiful example of highly decorative Indian art.

The Deputy Commissioner then presented the members of the Committee to the Viceroy who made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen,*—The kind words of your address are very welcome to Lady Minto and myself. This is our first visit to Lahore, and I hope you will tell your fellow-citizens from us how much we appreciate the warmth of the reception they have extended towards us. I have long wished to pay this visit to the capital of the Punjab. Lahore can well be proud of its very ancient history. It was in existence over 2,000 years ago, and in Akbar's time was already a great city. Since then it has steadily increased in wealth and in importance. During the last few years its growth has been particularly rapid. There has been a great expansion of its limits, and you tell me that its environs have been much transformed, largely, you say, owing to the effects of plague, which brought home to the population the necessity for healthier hygienic conditions and encouraged them to seek the open air of the country. No doubt this is so to a great extent, but I think you may fairly take credit to yourselves for the prudence and foresight which has distinguished your municipal policy as well as that of your predecessors. The Municipality of Lahore has for long been

*Address from Lahore Municipality.*

solicitous for the health and happiness of the population committed to its charge. You have been fortunate, too, in your Lieutenant-Governors. Sir Charles Rivaz, I know, took the greatest interest in Lahore, and the city and its environs owe much to him. I feel sure, too, that Sir Louis Dane will be no less careful of its interest and that, although the financial prospects of the Punjab Government may not seem particularly bright at present, he will always be ready to treat any reasonable request for assistance with sympathetic consideration.

The severe epidemic of malaria from which you suffered last year has without doubt called for the most careful supervision of the sanitation of the city, and I know that this is receiving the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor as well as of the Municipality.

You tell me of the continued abnormal price of food grains. I am sorry to say I hear the same complaint from every part of India. The Government of India is very fully aware of its grave importance.

I have heard with pleasure of the interest with which you have watched the progress of the reform schemes which are now in their final stage before the British Parliament. I can assure you that the task of bringing the proposals of the Government of India into practical effect as soon as they have received the approval of His Majesty's Government will be undertaken by myself and my colleagues with an earnest desire to fulfil the intentions for which those proposals were framed, and to meet the legitimate aspirations and ameliorate the welfare of the people of this country.

I thank you on behalf of Lady Minto for the kind words you have addressed to her. It will always be a pleasure to her to render any assistance in her power to the women of India, or to further the work of the many excellent associations which are doing so much to alleviate human suffering.

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*Address from Punjab Chiefs' Association.*

I thank you again very cordially for the welcome you have extended to us, which will always bring back to us many happy recollections of our first visit to Lahore.

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### ADDRESS FROM PUNJAB CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION.

2nd Apr. 1909. [During His Excellency's stay at Lahore one of the pleasantest and most sociable functions that the Viceroy attended took place at Shalimar Gardens on Friday afternoon, when His Excellency received an address from the Punjab Chiefs' Association, to which he replied with a most encouraging speech—one that will make history as far as any rate as the nobility of the Punjab is concerned. There was a very large number of guests present, both European and Indian, and all were delighted with the kindly hospitality of their genial hosts. The gardens were adorned in a beautiful style. Hundreds of fountains threw graceful sprays into the air, and the musical tinkling of the falling water was refreshing in the extreme. The decorations of the beautiful hall, which at the end of the upper terrace overlooks the lower, were delicious. The colours were few and simple. The overspanning arches were adorned with cloths of light blue and white of delicate texture which gave one a pleasing sensation of coolness, while rich rugs were placed around the throne on which Lord Minto took his seat. In another part of the gardens *shamianas* had been erected where tea and other refreshments were partaken of. Two bands were in attendance, the South Lancashire and the 38th Dogras.

His Excellency, Lady Minto and Staff, accompanied by the Lieutenant-Governor and Staff, were received at the entrance by the President of the Association, Nawab Behram Khan, and the leading members of the Association.

They were then conducted down the long walk leading to the Reception Hall. Half-way the procession came to a halt and His Excellency stood at the salute while the Dogras' band played the National Anthem. Lord Minto then passed down a row of the remaining members of the Association to whom he bowed in acknowledgment of their salutations. Lord Minto then took his seat in the Reception Hall, and the Chiefs' Association address was read by Sardar Partab Singh, C.S.I., General Secretary of the Association. This was enclosed in a beautiful silver casket, a handsome specimen of Delhi work, and handed to the Viceroy by the President.

*Address from Punjab Chiefs' Association.*

The following is the text of the address :—

We, the members of the Punjab Chiefs' Association, are gathered here this evening to present Your Excellency with an address of welcome to the capital of our province, and Your Excellency's acceptance of the same at once honours and exalts us.

It is a fortunate chance that Your Excellency's visit to the Punjab happens within a few weeks of the birth of our Association, thus not only bringing about a most auspicious circumstance, but enabling us to make known to Your Excellency the aspirations which have led to its formation, and which we hope will meet with Your Excellency's approval.

Your Excellency may have read in the newspapers an account of the formation of our Association. We need not here dilate on the programme we have planned for ourselves. Suffice it to say that we have deeply felt the necessity of making audible the voice of a class which has felt its responsibility towards the Government and the masses. A voice hitherto discordant will now be heard in chorus and perfect unison.

Most of us have watched Your Excellency's masterly steering of the ship of State through troubled waters for the last two years, and our hearts have been gladdened by the strength and wisdom which have shown the presence of an iron hand under the velvet glove whose grip is not meant to strangle freedom, but has been able to paralyse crime and to dispel all lawlessness and disorder from the land.

We assure Your Excellency that no class is more vitally interested in the maintenance of peace and order than ours, and we stand ready to help the Government with whatever humble resources we have at our command. We would fain have refrained from alluding to these topics and confined ourselves to more agreeable subjects, but the times require it. We feel it our bounden duty to emphasise that peace and order are our watchwords and that it shall be our supreme duty to vindicate and maintain them.

Your Excellency's noble persistence in recommending in the midst of untoward political circumstances sufficient to cast lesser minds into despair measures which will more and more associate the people in the work of government, is proof of a liberal mind and a generous heart in which the spirit of a far-seeing statesmanship is at work ; and we trust that when Your Excellency's proposed reform measures, which have been so enthusiastically taken up by Lord Morley, have become an accomplished fact, they will belie the pessimistic forecasts which certain people whom nothing can reconcile are making.

We must also avail ourselves of this opportunity to express our grateful feelings to Lady Minto for evincing such a tender solicitude



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*Address from Punjab Chiefs' Association.*

for the welfare and uplifting of Indian womanhood. It is true that the task of approaching *pardah* ladies is fraught with many impediments, but Her Ladyship's remarkable tact combined with her courtesy has won her the love and respect of all with whom she has come in contact. We wish Her Ladyship all success in this noble work. Her Ladyship has by her presidency of the Lady Dufferin Fund considerably increased its scope and its usefulness. To the pilotage of that beneficent work she has added another institution, namely, the Nursing Association, which will ever be the mark of her love of alleviating human suffering.

Your Excellency, as we have said before, is aware of the aims and objects of our Association, and we, therefore, deem it superfluous to give a detailed description of the reasons which prompted us to launch it into active life. Briefly put, we were actuated by an ardent desire to put our house in order and effect such changes in it as are rendered indispensable by its environment.

We cannot help mentioning to Your Excellency how our Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Louis William Dane, has encouraged us in our work of organisation which, but for His Honour's encouragement, would have ended in failure, and how he has warmly sympathised with our aspirations which, under his auspices, we feel confident are bound to be realised.

"In the end we must express our gratitude to Your Excellency and your worthy consort for the honour done to us this evening by Your Excellencies gracing our garden party with your presence.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

*Gentlemen*,—I warmly thank you for the welcome you have extended in your address to Lady Minto and myself, but I have also to thank you for your hospitality as our hosts in the midst of surroundings full of charm and historical interest. You could have chosen no more beautiful place for to-day's ceremony than the Shalimar Gardens, an ideal spot for a gathering such as this, inaugurated by the Chiefs of the Punjab.

Your Association is, I know, still in its infancy—it is not yet a year old. But youthful as it is, I can assure you I have watched its growth with deep interest, for it has come into existence at a time when there is much need for the fulfilment of the objects it aims at, and for which the future promises many useful opportunities. Your President is Nawab Bahram Khan, whilst I know how much

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*Address from Punjab Chiefs' Association.*

Sirdar Partab Singh of Jullundur has done to inaugurate your organisation and to ensure its success. I am also aware that Sir Louis Dane takes a keen interest in your progress. So that I feel that the infant Association has begun its life in careful hands and under good tutelage.

At the present moment especially, when the air has been so full of political discussion, together with anxieties as to the peaceful administration of the country, it is very encouraging to recognise in your Association a common effort on the part of those who are the natural leaders of the people of this province, and who have the greatest stake in its prosperity, to unite together in the representation of interests which not only affect themselves but the population amongst whom they live.

You are the great landowners of the province and the hereditary leaders and representatives of the people, you know their daily life and their daily wants, and it is to you that the Government of India must look for information and for guidance.

I am glad that the Sirdars have united in one common cause, that they have manfully determined to make their voice heard in support of the Government whose first duty must be the maintenance of law and order, which alone can ensure the success of the reforms they have been so anxious to introduce.

Gentlemen, I heartily welcome the assurance you have to-day given me of your combined assistance, and I know full well that the Government of India will have no more willing and efficient coadjutors in their task of furthering the highest interests of the people than the nobles and gentlemen of the Punjab.

Lady Minto asks me to thank you, Gentlemen, for the many kind words you have so gracefully addressed to her, and to tell you that it is very encouraging to her to hear from you that her sympathies for Indian womanhood and the work in which she is so much interested have been appreciated.

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*Convocation of the Punjab University and Addresses from the Punjab Moslem League, the Hindu Sabha and the Sikh Community of the Punjab.*

Lady Minto and I will carry away with us very happy recollections of your reception to us in the Shalimar Gardens, and, Gentlemen, I must assure you that it has been very gratifying to me to find myself surrounded by so many representatives of some of the finest soldierly races in the Empire, many of them descendants of men who have over and over again proved themselves sturdy fighters and gallant gentlemen on many a hard-fought field.

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CONVOCATION OF THE PUNJAB UNIVERSITY AND  
ADDRESSES FROM THE PUNJAB MOSLEM LEAGUE,  
THE HINDU SABHA AND THE SIKH COM-  
MUNITY OF THE PUNJAB.

3rd Apr. 1909. [During His Excellency the Viceroy's stay in Lahore the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and Fellows of the University of the Punjab met in Convocation for the purpose of conferring the Degree of Doctor of Literature on His Excellency the Viceroy at the University Hall, Lahore, on Saturday last at 5-30 P.M. The Fellows of the University, habited in the prescribed academical costume (those who were graduates of that and other universities wearing the hoods of their Degrees) were early in their places, while the body of the hall was full with the members of the three communities who were to present addresses to the Viceroy, *viz.*,—the Punjab Moslem League, the Hindu Sabha and the representatives of the Sikh community—and a large number of visitors. The Lieutenant-Governor, the Chancellor of the University, arrived a little before the Viceroy, and was received by the Vice-Chancellor (Sir P. C. Chatterji) and the Syndics. The Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, and Syndics of the University then received Lord Minto, Patron of the University, and conducted him to his seat on the dais, all present in the hall standing.

All being seated, the Vice-Chancellor requested the Chancellor to declare the Convocation open. This was accordingly done, and Sir P. C. Chatterji read the following resolution:—“That His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Gilbert John Elliot-Murray-Kynynmound, P.C., G.C.M.G., Earl of Minto, of Roxburgh, Viscount Melgund in the County of Forfar, Baron Minto of Minto, Roxburgh, and a Baronet of Nova Scotia, Viceroy and Governor-General of India, Patron of the

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Punjab University, is, by reason of eminent position and attainments, a fit and proper person to receive the Degree of Doctor of Literature, and that, according to the provisions of section 17 of the Indian Universities Act of 1904, the said Degree be conferred upon him *honoris causa*."

The Chancellor then, on behalf of the Senate, and with the assistance of the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar (Mr. A. C. Woolner) conferred the Degree of Doctor of Literature upon His Excellency, in the following words:—"In accordance with the resolution of the Senate just read, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Chancellor of this University, I admit Your Excellency to the Degree of Doctor of Literature, and in token thereof I present to you this Diploma, and authorise you to wear the robes ordained as the insignia of this Degree." When the Degree had been conferred the Chancellor said to the Registrar:—"Let the Degree conferred now be proclaimed."

The Registrar thereupon read out the Record of the Degree conferred, as follows:—"We, the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and Fellows of the University of the Punjab, do hereby proclaim and make known that we have admitted the following person to the Degree specified." The Registrar then presented the above Record to the Chancellor for signature. When the Degree had been conferred Sir Louis Dane made the following speech:—

"*Mr. Vice-Chancellor and Gentlemen*,—Before I declare this Convocation closed I feel that as Chancellor of the Punjab University it is incumbent on me to attempt to voice the feeling of the University in the matter of the Degree which has just been conferred. It is the privilege of learned universities all the world over to honour the services of distinguished men to mankind by the conferment of suitable degrees within the scope of their powers. Our University has followed this excellent example. It is a case of an honour which is twice blessed, as it honoureth him that gives and him that takes. There is every reason why the Punjab University should honour the Viceroy and Governor-General of India, and in the past we have been privileged so to confer Degrees on more than one of His Excellency's distinguished predecessors. But the Earl of Minto has special claims on our consideration. He is the Patron of our University and this is his first visit to the capital of the Punjab. It has been long and anxiously looked for by the peoples of the province, and I trust that Their Excellencies have been pleased with their visit. I am sure that they have recognised that as citizens of no mean city we do well

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to be proud of the capital of our province, and that in this glorious spring time of the year and of our hopes Lahore yields to none in beauty and in intellectual and industrial enterprise and advancement. Of the warmth of our welcome I leave Their Excellencies to judge. It was at any rate the spontaneous outcome of the wishes and efforts of all classes, Indian and British, and, slightly paraphrasing the words of our late Laureate, I may perhaps say—

‘ Muslim and Hindu and Sikh are we,  
But all of us one in our welcome of thee.’

The Senate felt that the University must share in this public welcome and, in spite of the great pressure on His Excellency’s time, urgently invited him to associate himself even more closely with its fortunes by becoming one of its graduates. On behalf of the whole University I thank Your Excellency for your courtesy in meeting our wishes and welcome you as our latest Doctor of Literature.

“ But, Gentlemen, we have greater and more special reasons for honouring the Earl of Minto than even these. As the only University with an Oriental Faculty we know the value of hereditary associations of those charged with the task of government. It is the pride of kings to be ‘ Us Sultan ibn us Sultan ibn us Sultan.’ Lord Minto is not only Viceroy and Governor-General, but he is the great-grandson of the Governor-General who just a century ago laid the foundations of that intimate mutual respect and esteem that have happily always governed the relations between the British Government and the great Sikh principalities of the Punjab, which it is our privilege to maintain and strengthen, and which are the type and cause of the cordial friendship that has always existed between British and Indians in this province. His Excellency has followed in the footsteps of his ancestor in working for the interests and in winning the affection of the peoples of India, and it is a fortunate and happy coincidence that we in Lahore should be the first corporate body to congratulate him on the approaching fruition of the great scheme of widespread and far-reaching constitutional reform, which he has originated with a view of giving the peoples of India a greater and more effective share in the government of this continent and at which he has been labouring for nearly two years. No great scheme of this kind could possibly spring all armed from the brain of any one statesman. It has had to pass through the mill of public opinion and of the searching criticisms of the Provincial Governments and of the Government of India, and I can assure you that these criticisms are fearless and independent in the highest degree and

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directed wholly and solely to what the critics believe to be the good of India. Then it has had to be prepared to pass the severer ordeal of debate in the mother of Parliaments. Just as His Excellency reached Lahore we heard that the Bill has successfully won through the great test of second reading in the House of Commons and will soon become the law of the Empire. But the scheme as it has emerged is still in its main lines the scheme which the Earl of Minto formulated, and by its failure or success he will be judged by history. After the direct assumption of the Government of India by Her late Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria it is the most momentous change which has been made in the government of this land under the British Crown.

"Doubts and questions there have been as to the extent which should be given to the reform—some have desired a greater scope, many have thought that the range was too great already, and there may be discussion as to some of the details. But, Gentlemen, in consequence of His Excellency's action all are agreed that it is now right and proper that the peoples of India should be given a further share in the government of the country. These reforms will give them that share—indeed already an Indian, Mr. Sinha, has been selected by His Majesty the King-Emperor for a seat on the Imperial Council—a selection which, let me remind you, would not have been possible if His Excellency had not first appointed him to the almost equally onerous and responsible post of Advocate-General. That the reforms will be a failure I refuse to believe; that they will be a triumphant success we all desire; and it rests with us to make them so. We public servants have been called sun-dried bureaucrats. If this means that we are sapless and soulless dried sticks, the senseless product of the union of tedious routine and lifeless red tape, I repudiate the aspersion. We have our enthusiasms, and we have felt the East's a-calling. Some of us, like myself, have played small parts in the government of the country for four and five generations, and have spent the best part of our lives in the country. It is true that we have all felt the sun of India, but that sun has not withered our sympathies or blighted our aspirations. It has only warmed into love for India and its peoples the kindly affection which all true men must feel for the land of their adoption. I can assure you that nothing will be wanting on our side to vivify and promote the reforms consistently with the good of India and the stability of His Majesty's Dominion. It rests with you Indians, and especially with you educated gentlemen of the Punjab, to help us, and I regard it

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as a happy augury for the future that the University of the Punjab, embodying the flower of modern light and learning in the province, should at this critical moment in the history of the land have thus insisted—and I use the word advisedly, insisted—on publicly associating itself with the warm welcome which the capital of the province has extended to His Excellency the Earl of Minto, whom we are happily the first to congratulate on the successful completion of his task. Said I not well, then, that our action was twice blessed? The honour which we have tendered to such a man has but returned to us a hundredfold, in that we can now count the distinguished author and originator of the Reformed Government of India as a Doctor of Literature and Member of our University.”

The Convocation was then declared closed.

PUNJAB MOSLEM LEAGUE'S ADDRESS.

The members of the Punjab Moslem League deputation then advanced headed by their President, Nawab Fateh Ali Khan Kazilbash, C.I.E., and the General Secretary, Khan Bahadur Mahammad Shafi. His Excellency acknowledging their presentation, Mr. Shafi was permitted to read the following address, which was afterwards enclosed in a casket and handed to Lord Minto :—

We, the Office-bearers and Members of the Provincial Moslim League, Punjab, and of its seventeen District Branches, crave permission to accord to Your Excellency and Lady Minto on behalf of the Punjab Muhammadans a most respectful and loyal welcome on this Your Excellency's first visit to the capital of this province. Your Excellency will, we trust, permit us to avail ourselves of this opportunity to assure Your Excellency, as the representative in this country of our august Sovereign, of the continued devotion and attachment of the community we represent to the British Throne, and of our sincere desire to assist, as far as in us lies, the cause of peace and good government in this British Dependency. We are indeed proud of living under the protection of a system of administration at once enlightened in its methods and unique in its civilizing influences, and we feel legitimate gratification at belonging, in however humble a capacity, to an empire that wields unchallenged sway over vast populations representing all stages of intellectual and political advancement and endless shades of human belief and opinion. Our sense of genuine satisfaction at our political connection with the British Empire is enhanced when we think of the many spheres

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of Imperial concern in which the dominant influence of Great Britain operates upon Muhammadan races and States to their unquestioned advantage, and we may be allowed to express a humble hope that the policy of British statesmen towards those races and their solicitude for the Indian Musalmans will continue to work upon lines that may strengthen the position of England, not only as the greatest Muhammadan Power, but also as the vigilant custodian of Muhammadan interests as a factor in the pacific progress of the world.

The Punjab Muhammadans, in common with their co-religionists in other parts of the country, have always felt profound appreciation of the benignant influences of British rule in India, which have ensured peace and prosperity amongst peoples long torn by internecine strife and suffering from the disastrous consequences of social tumult and political disintegration. The application of Western methods of intellectual training, through the beneficent machinery of a well-organized State Department, has been followed by a most gratifying elevation of thought and refinement of ideal among the peoples of this ancient land, and already the noble efforts and purposeful activities of British genius in the domain of education have achieved results of which any civilized Government may well be proud. The Muhammadans, though at first under altered conditions of modern life they found it difficult to re-adjust their ideas to the requirements of the day, have now willingly laid themselves open to the operation of new impulses and are qualifying themselves for taking an active part in the healthy struggle of intellectual and civic advance. They realize that they have yet to regain much of the lost ground to make good those deficiencies, both in mental equipment and organization, by reason of which they have not been able to keep abreast of the progressive times. Their earnestness of endeavour in the direction of an upward movement is a guarantee of their sincere desire to deserve the privileges inseparable from an enlightened system of administration, and they regard it as a potent instrument for achieving the main objects of a corporate life. The Muhammadans of this province, we are happy to be able to assure Your Excellency, are actively working in a spirit of conformity with the needs of the age, and are evincing signs of a harmonious development of national life and of a capacity for resourceful self-reliance calculated to strengthen materially their position in a healthy inter-racial competition.

The Musalmans of the Punjab, representing in a special sense the unsophisticated instincts of its martial races, have ever since



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their absorption in the British dominion thrown in their lot with British rule, and with every forward step that the country takes in the direction of moral and material progress accompanied by the inevitable growth of new and complex relations between our co-religionists and the sister communities, they increasingly feel that their interests are indissolubly bound up with the strength and permanence of that rule. And it is to that deep-rooted and strong feeling—a feeling that with advancing years is growing in amplitude and intensity—that we respectfully venture to give humble utterance when we say that whenever and wherever the interests of British administration may so require, we Muhammadan subjects of His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor will be unfaltering in our loyal support of peace and order, not by means of words merely, but by acts and deeds, due from us as a tribute of grateful service in return for the enjoyment of invaluable advantages from an enlightened and progressive system of government.

We cannot let this opportunity pass without giving emphatic expression to the feeling of profound detestation entertained by the entire Muhammadan community, not only in this province, but throughout India, in regard to the anarchical propaganda promoted by a certain class of revolutionaries who are blind alike to genuine Indian interest and to the many obligations they owe to British rule. We feel it our duty to condemn, in the strongest language we can command, the venomous teachings of these political visionaries and the atrocious crimes and outrages, consequent upon those teachings, which have disgraced certain parts of the country. All loyal and law-abiding subjects of the British Crown are agreed that the heavy hand of the law has been rightly laid upon these enemies of the human race, and they are sincerely willing to co-operate actively with Government in respect of measures considered necessary for repressing all forms of lawlessness and disorder. The Punjab Muhammadans view with entire satisfaction the strong steps, both legislative and executive, recently taken by Your Excellency's Government for stamping out sedition and anarchy, and they will always be prepared to support loyally and unreservedly, the authorities in their endeavours to cut at the roots of disaffection and to uphold the cause of law and order.

In connection with this regrettable aspect of the Indian situation we crave permission to express our sincerest admiration of the statesmanlike tact, judgment, and foresight displayed by Your Excellency which have gone far to relieve the tension that existed for some time past in certain parts of the country. The inauguration of the scheme

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of Indian reforms, with which Your Excellency's honoured name will ever be associated, has been a work of the highest constructive statesmanship, and we beg, in the name of our community, to tender our loyal thanks to Your Excellency for this great boon to the Indian people. We are in particular profoundly grateful for the careful consideration which Your Excellency's Government has been pleased to bestow upon the peculiar position and needs of the Indian Mussalmans in connection with the projected scheme; and we are deeply gratified at the recognition which, mainly upon the basis of Your Excellency's weighty recommendation, the Right Honourable the Secretary of State has graciously accorded to the Moslem prayer for separate representation of their interests on the expanded Legislative Councils. The statesmanlike view which Your Excellency was pleased to take, in your reply to the All-India Muhammadan Deputation in 1906, of the position of our community as an important factor in modern Indian politics, and as thus entitled to special treatment, constitutes the bed-rock on which the subsequent proposals in regard to Moslem representation in the new scheme are based, and we naturally regard that reply as marking the opening of a new chapter in the political history of the Mussalmans. It is a matter of no small satisfaction to us that the Secretary of State has recently been pleased to promise to the Muhammadans an adequate measure of representation on the new Councils, which, we earnestly trust, will be commensurate, not only with their numbers, but also with their historical and political importance. Muhammadan opinion throughout India has shown remarkable unanimity in demanding such representation, mainly with a view to secure a workable co-ordination of important communal institutions beneficial to all the races concerned, under the wise supervision of imperial authority; and we trust that no jarring note struck by assertive self-interest will be allowed to militate against the adoption of a system of representation demanded alike by political expediency and well-ordered evolution of expansive and increasingly complex civic notions.

To Your Excellency's noble consort we respectfully beg to tender the grateful thanks of the Muhammadan community for the deep interest which Her Ladyship evinces in the welfare of the Indian women as evidenced by her devoted attention to the working of the Countess of Dufferin Fund and by her recent philanthropic endeavours to promote the equally beneficent nursing scheme associated with Her Excellency's name.

In conclusion, we beg leave to offer our grateful thanks to Your Excellency for having graciously granted us this opportunity of

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welcoming Your Excellency and Lady Minto to the capital of this province.

**HINDU SABHA'S ADDRESS.**

After the Moslem League deputation had retired the representatives of the Punjab Hindu Sabha were received and through their General Secretary, Mr. Shadi Lal, were permitted to present the following address :—

We, the representatives of the Punjab Hindu Sabha, beg, on behalf of the Hindu community of the province, to accord to Your Excellency and Her Excellency Lady Minto a warm and cordial welcome on the occasion of this Your Excellency's first visit to the capital of the Punjab. And we take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded to us most humbly to request Your Excellency, as the august representative of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor, to convey to His Majesty our feelings of unswerving loyalty and steadfast devotion to the British Crown which, in common with the rest of their countrymen, animate the Hindus of the Punjab. It is scarcely necessary to speak of the traditions of loyalty of the Hindus of this province, but the existence of anarchist designs in some parts of India most certainly demands that we should assure Your Excellency that such designs are viewed with the utmost abhorrence by the Hindu community of the Punjab, and that they will always be ready to co-operate with the Government in their attempts to put down anarchism and lawlessness of every description.

It affords us special gratification at this moment to find that Your Excellency comes in our midst accompanied by Lady Minto, who has endeared herself to all classes of the Indian community by the lively interest she takes in the alleviation of the sufferings of the women of India, and we beg respectfully to tender to Her Excellency our warmest thanks and humble appreciation of all that Her Excellency has done for them. We trust that the short stay of Your Excellencies in this city will be happy and full of pleasurable associations and reminiscences.

Your Excellency's arrival in the Punjab has been at a momentous period in the political history of the country. We are on the eve of the fulfilment of some of our cherished desires and aspirations brought about by the conjoint liberal-minded statesmanship of Your Excellency and the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India. The whole country received the Reform Scheme, as announced in December 1908, with a profound sense of gratitude and satisfaction,

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and we, in common with the rest of the Hindu community throughout India, sincerely hoped that the scheme would, in practical working, prove a real and substantial boon and promote the true welfare and advancement of the whole Indian population.

Her Gracious Majesty, our late beloved and revered Queen-Empress, in her Proclamation of 1858, which has since been regarded as the Magna Charta of the people of India, laid down that "so far as may be, our subjects, of whatever race or creed, be freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service, the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge." And the principle herein forcibly enunciated received confirmation in the recent gracious message of His Majesty the King-Emperor to the "Princes and People of India," in which His Majesty placed just stress upon "obliterating distinctions of race as the test for access to posts of public authority and power." We are glad to observe that the Hindu community throughout the country have ever maintained an unwavering attitude in respect of the noble principle thus forcibly expressed, and declared times out of number, that, in associating the people in the difficult and arduous work of administration, the Government need not grant to Hindus any special advantages, but that "fair field and no favour" should be adopted as the one guiding motto in the distribution of State patronage and political privileges.

We beg respectfully to assure Your Excellency that the changes which, it is now announced, are proposed to be introduced in that scheme in deference to the wishes of a section of our fellow-countrymen of the Muhammadan persuasion, have filled the Hindus with dismay. We, therefore, take the liberty of placing before Your Excellency the views of the community to which we have the honour to belong in the fervent hope that due consideration may be vouchsafed to them before any final decision is arrived at as to the shape which the proposed changes should assume.

The Hindu community humbly submit that, while every reasonable precaution may be adopted to safeguard the interests of the minorities where they are likely to be jeopardised, no case has been made out for any special concessions to any community on the score of its alleged historical or political importance, and that the claim of "excessive representation" advanced in certain quarters, in connection with the Reform Scheme, is opposed to the principles of justice and fair play. The acceptance of the principle of representation for any community in excess of its numerical proportion, besides being a slur on the other communities, would be tantamount to denying equal treat-

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ment to the different classes of His Majesty's subjects in the eye of the law. It would further, by creating a favoured class, sow the seeds of embitterment of feelings and of administrative difficulties which may not now be all foreseen. It is on this account that many distinguished and enlightened Muhammadan gentlemen concur with the Hindus in considering the grant of special concessions to Muhammadans as fraught with consequences most detrimental to the country. The history of the past 50 years shows that there have been no occasions on which it was found that, in matters of legislation, the interests of the Hindus and Muhammadans have ever been in real conflict. It is hardly necessary to state that the Hindus are as loyal as their Muhammadan brethren; that the British acquired the country from the Hindus; that most of the Muhammadans are descendants of converted Hindus, at one with the latter in many of their thoughts, habits and usages; and that the Hindu element in the Indian Army—the Dogra, the Rajput, the Gurkha, the Sikh, and the Jat—is predominant and guards the Empire effectually against foreign aggression or internal commotion. In his reply to the deputation of the Moslem League headed by Mr. Amir Ali in London, Lord Morley is reported to have observed: "Whatever may be the case with Muhammadans and Hindus, there is one body of men who are bound to keep a fair mind, and that is the Government. The Government are bound, whatever you may do among yourselves, strictly, and I will even say sternly, to keep a fair mind and to deal with the problem in that spirit." This is exactly what we Hindus humbly pray for. It is far from us to clamour for special privileges, but justice and fair play is all that we demand, and we beg to enter our humble but emphatic protest against any departure from the spirit of impartiality so forcibly commended by His Lordship the Secretary of State. We have ventured to approach Your Excellency in the firm conviction that in dealing with the question of representation under the Reform Scheme, the Government would be pleased to proceed on the principle of even-handed justice based on considerations of the numerical strength of the various communities inhabiting the country. The Hindus as intelligent, loyal and law-abiding subjects of His Majesty would welcome any progressive measure for the better governance of the country as a whole, but they strongly feel that the proposed innovation puts upon them the stamp of inferiority for ever and is likely to nullify all the good results of the Reform Scheme. We are afraid we shall not be giving a faithful expression to the innermost feelings of the community which we have the honour to represent if we fail to state

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however reluctantly, that the Hindus look upon the proposed innovation with so much misgiving that, if it were left to their choice, they would rather forego the benefit of the Reform Scheme than have it under such conditions.

It may not be out of place on this occasion to bring to Your Excellency's notice one or two peculiar grievances which the Hindus in this province have seriously to complain of. One of the grievances most keenly felt is that, since the passing of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act (Act XIII of 1900), it has nearly become an impossibility for the majority of the Hindus to acquire landed property for any purpose whatsoever. The ostensible object of that Act was to save improvident agriculturists from the hands of greedy money-lenders. But all monied men are not necessarily money-lenders, and under the notifications published by the Local Government under section 4 of the Act no Brahman, Khatri or a member of other castes not included in the notification can buy land, whether money-lender or not. The rule was sufficiently stringent under the above Act, but it contained a saving clause by way of concession in favour of certain classes of landowners termed statutory agriculturists in the Act. But the Punjab Act: II of 1907 has taken away even that concession, and the Punjab Pre-emption Act has made matters worse. The Punjab Alienation of Land Act has been justified on the ground that the Punjab is a land of yeomen and peasant proprietors and their expropriation by the money-lending classes was undesirable on political grounds. But that is no justification, we respectfully submit, for a strong paternal Government to keep out important classes of its subjects from rights which they enjoyed under preceding *régimes* and which are the common heritage of people in all well-ordered States and in every part of the civilised world.

Not only is this the case, but we may be allowed to point out that the land already held by the Hindus is gradually passing out of their hands in pursuance of the provisions of these Acts. One further result of these Acts, as may be seen from the official reports, is that the military classes such as Rajputs, are losing ground and the non-military classes who are notified as agricultural tribes are gaining at their expense.

Another grievance which the Hindus in the Punjab complain of is that, in the matter of giving appointments in the public services, merit is often overlooked for class consideration, with the result that the Hindus suffer thereby. The Government, on the annexation of the province, started schools and colleges, and the Hindus flocked to

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these institutions which their rulers had thrown open for the benefit of all classes and sections of the people. If other communities, in the race for progress, did not keep pace with them, that is no fault of theirs. They are quite agreeable that all communities should possess a fair share in the public service, but they submit that in allotting posts "education, ability and integrity," as laid down in the Proclamation of 1858, should have precedence over every other consideration.

In conclusion, we beg sincerely to thank Your Excellency for the kind attention with which you have been pleased to listen to our humble address. Now that India is passing through a state of transformation pregnant with momentous results, a statement of the sentiments of the oldest community who had made this land their home and whose position will be seriously affected by the changes going on may be useful to the statesmen at the helm of the country in the replacement of the old order by the new. We Hindus take our stand as representatives of the race which in this land of the Five Rivers first sowed the seeds of a civilisation whose humanising principles have created an abiding impression on the character of the entire Indian population, making them lovers of order and enlightenment and of those arts of peace which at once furnish the soundest basis for British rule and form its noblest fructification.

**SIKH COMMUNITY'S ADDRESS.**

The Sabha having withdrawn, a similar presentation of members of the Sikh Community approached, and Bhai Johawar Singh, their Secretary, was permitted to read the following address :—

We, the undersigned members of the Sikh Community, respectfully beg to approach Your Excellency and tender you our hearty welcome to the capital of this province. In doing so we beg to be allowed to include Her Excellency the Countess of Minto.

The presence of Your Excellency in this province is all the more welcome, as it is timed at the close of an extended period of grave anxiety during which your patience, tact and statesmanship have smoothed that temporary wave of unrest that threatened to cast a slur on the loyal name of the whole of His Majesty's subjects in this Empire. Bound as our community is to the British Government both by ties of sentiment and self interest, we need hardly say that we have viewed with the greatest abhorrence and alarm the wretched attempts of the anarchists aimed at the stability of the *raj*, and we have welcomed with satisfaction the measures adopted by Your Excellency's Government to stamp out the evil.

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We need not at this date make any lengthy reference to the steadfast loyalty of our community whose members have always shed their best blood to establish and strengthen the basis of the British *raj*. Not only have they been found of service in suppressing internal commotion in the country as in the dark days of the Mutiny, as well as in guarding the Empire against foreign intruders, as in the frontier campaigns, but they have also been selected for active service abroad, and have won laurels in China, Burma, Abyssinia, Egypt and other parts of Africa. The standing monument of their fidelity and courage is furnished by the memorable Saraghari incident, which the benign Government has thought fit to be deserving of special and permanent commemoration. The King-Emperor's gracious message expressing appreciation of the services of the Indian Army, to which our community contributes an important factor, has been received by us with great satisfaction and the increase of pay given to the troops which has since followed has evoked our sincere gratitude.

We are indeed grateful to Your Excellency's Government in placing the administration of this important province in the hands of His Honour Sir Louis Dane, who has given to it the summer of his life and who is beloved by all classes. We feel confident in approaching him on all matters in which our interests are involved. He has just spent the first year of his responsible administration in personally investigating the requirements of the province and its various peoples, and has succeeded in removing many misapprehensions regarding administrative measures.

We should not allow this opportunity to pass without offering our sincere thanks to Your Excellency for the establishment of an Agricultural College at Lyallpur, which has supplied a want keenly felt by a community the majority of whom are agriculturists.

Along with other Indian communities we fully appreciate the value of the Reform Scheme which has been inaugurated by the generous statesmanship of Lord Morley and yourself, and we beg respectfully to urge that on the principle of guarding the interests of minorities and giving special representation to important communities, Your Excellency will be pleased to give due consideration to the claims of the Sikh community in applying the scheme to the Punjab, where, from both the standpoints of contributing to the revenues and the defence of the country, the Sikhs form an important factor in the constitution of the Empire. In this connection we may also take leave to urge that the Sikhs should be given their adequate share of appointments in the various departments of the public service—a



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matter in which they deserve special encouragement at the hands of the Government.

In the discharge of the important and multifarious duties that attach to your high office Your Excellency always sympathetically considers the cause of Indians of all classes and both sexes, and we would wish to respectfully convey our full measure of appreciation of the sympathy that all classes of Indian womenfolk have received at the hands of Her Excellency Lady Minto, whose name will always be cherished with affection in this country.

We beg, in conclusion, to offer our sincere prayers for your future happiness, and beg that this expression of loyal and steadfast submission to the British Throne may be conveyed to His Majesty the King-Emperor.

"We beg to subscribe ourselves as Your Excellency's most humble and loyal servants.

His Excellency replied to the addresses as follows :—]

*Gentlemen,*—The time at my disposal during my visit to Lahore has unfortunately been so limited that I am sure the representatives of the three great communities who have addressed me to-day—the representatives of the Provincial Moslem League of the Punjab, of the Hindu Sabha, and of the Sikh Community—will allow me to thank them collectively for the warmth of the welcome they have extended to Lady Minto and myself on our first visit to this beautiful city.

It has been very gratifying to me as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor to listen to the loyal words of your addresses, and to recognise how thoroughly the Government of India may rely upon the sincere desire of the leaders of the great sections of the population in this province to assist in its peaceful and prosperous administration. I have seen around me on all sides the evidences of increasing industrial and agricultural development, and I was specially glad to learn from the address from the Sikh Community, representing as it does to a great extent the farmers of the Punjab, that the practical teaching of the Agricultural College at Lyallpur is already making itself felt

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The future welfare of the province seems indeed well assured, all the more so because its population, though composed of great and different communities, is thoroughly representative of the manly material which goes so far to ensure success in life, and of which the Empire may well be proud.

All you have said, Gentlemen, as to your horror and detestation of the revolutionary crimes of which we have had such sad experience is, I know, shared by the loyal subjects of the King-Emperor throughout the length and breadth of India. Such crimes are foreign to this country ; it is a grief to the people of India and to Indian administrators that they should for a moment have obtained a foothold in the land ; they can lead to nothing but distress and misery, and I trust to the joint effort of the people of India and the Government of India to eradicate them.

And, Gentlemen, you have also reminded me, and very naturally so, that we are on the eve of the inauguration of great reforms in the administration of the Government of India. The lines upon which those reforms have been framed have been long before the country, there has been ample opportunity for their discussion, and I am sure I may say that the proposals they embody have been received with a widespread hopefulness for the future. Of course in any great scheme there must always be differences of opinion as to points of detail in its machinery. These may be bitterly fought over—it is only in human nature that they should be—but we mustn't lose our heads over these skirmishes, for they are nothing else. We must remember that the real battle has to be fought—in this case I hope it has been fought and won—over great principles, not over the details as to how those principles are to be brought into practice. The great principle of the reforms now before Parliament is the widening of representation on the Legislative Councils, with the intention of increasing the

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representation of the most stable interests constituting the populations of India. That increased representation will shortly be sanctioned by law, and the machinery which is to regulate it is now under the most careful consideration of the Government of India. I cannot believe that any one with the future good of India at heart would jeopardise the success that has been gained by the exaggeration of difficulties which time and good sense, if left to themselves, can certainly remove. It is all-important that those difficulties should be approached with a broadminded appreciation of the many different interests concerned.

I am afraid, Gentlemen, that in the heat of political warfare the Hindu Sabha have somewhat forgotten that they were presenting the Viceroy with an address of welcome—he hardly expected in the midst of the cordiality of his reception to be called upon to partake of the feast of contentious delicacies they have spread out before him, which he ventures to think might have reached him in a more edible condition if previously submitted to the examination of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. But, Gentlemen, I hope I need not say that I shall be very willing fully to deal with the points the Hindu Sabha have raised if they are submitted to me in a well-considered form through Sir Louis Dane.

For the present I need only tell you that the even-handed justice you ask for in respect to that representation which the Government of India is doing its best to give you cannot, with any regard to the even-handed justice which the many communities of India rightly claim, be secured on a numerical basis.

The Hindu Sabha remind me of the celebrated sentence in the Queen's Proclamation of 1858, but they have made no reference to its fulfilment in the appointment of Mr. Sinha, whilst they tell me that for the sake of a detail of electoral machinery they are prepared to forego the

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benefits of a reformed administration to the whole of India. I cannot but say that I regret the line of argument they have adopted, which is to the best of my belief contrary to the most thoughtful Hindu opinion. We are passing through a momentous period in the political history of this country, and I hope that what I have said may lead them to a careful reconsideration of the many points raised in their address with which, from the nature of to-day's ceremony, I am precluded from dealing, but to which I will gladly reply should they think fit to address me again at a later date.

Gentlemen, I must again thank you for the cordiality of your addresses and for your many kind expressions towards Lady Minto and myself. We shall leave you very full of pleasant memories of this beautiful city and of the reception given to us by the people of Lahore.

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PHULKIAN STATES DEPUTATION.

[On Thursday, 6th May, the Viceroy received a deputation at Vice-<sup>16th May 1909.</sup>regal Lodge from the three Phulkian States in commemoration of the hundredth anniversary of their connection with the Government of India. Shortly after his arrival in India the first Lord Minto found that the careful instructions of the Board of Directors to continue the policy of non-interference with the various Native States, which his predecessor had initiated and steadily pursued, could not possibly be carried out without laying the Government open to charges of breach of faith as well as of inability to fulfil obligations which they had already contracted. Accordingly, when the Cis-Sutlej States represented to the Governor-General that Maharaja Ranjit Singh had resumed his campaign of aggression and was preparing to absorb their territories, Lord Minto, mindful of the promises given to the Chiefs by Lord Lake after the capture of Delhi about five years previously, warned the Lahore Court that all the States south of the Sutlej had been taken under British protection, and to emphasise the warning moved up a strong body of troops to the frontier. This had the desired effect, and the Maharaja retired to Lahore. At the same time the Governor-General issued a proclamation to all the Chiefs that henceforth they and their States would be under the protection of the British Government, who would guarantee to them

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their possessions and independence. This proclamation was delivered to Patiala, Jind and Nabha by General Ochterlony on the 6th May 1809.

It was to commemorate the centenary of this event that the deputation waited on the Viceroy on the 6th May.

The representatives were :—

Colonel Abdul Majid Khan and Sirdar Nurnarain Singh of Patiala, Sirdar Prem Singh and Lala Brij Narain of Jind and Sirdars Hazura Singh and Raghbir Singh of Nabha.

They were received at 11 A.M. by the Viceroy, who was accompanied by his full staff. After the representatives had been introduced, Colonel Abdul Majid Khan addressed His Excellency as follows :—

“We have been deputed by our masters the Maharaja of Patiala, the Raja of Jind and the Raja of Nabha to wait upon Your Excellency with the object of expressing Their Highnesses’ heart-felt gratitude towards the British Government on the auspicious occasion of these three great Sikh States first coming under the benign protection of the British Government on the 6th May 1809. This historical event for ever secured the safety and the welfare of the States. It averted all danger of foreign invasion and ensured the prosperity of the States and their subjects. Until that day it was the general belief that these States could extend their territories only by the sword, but during the century that has passed under the ægis of the British suzerainty the area of the States has greatly increased, their revenue has been enormously developed, while their people have made a marked advance in civilisation and progress. The first Lord Minto was the great benefactor who interposed to save these States at the most critical time in their history, and thus laid the foundation at once of their prosperity and of their devotion to their protector and his successors. It must be no small gratification to Your Excellency as great-grandson of the first Earl of Minto, and as Governor-General of India, to look back to-day upon all the results of the wise and upright policy of your great ancestor.

“The Phulkian families are proud of their record of loyalty and staunch fidelity to the British Crown. They have ever placed at the disposal of Government their troops, their treasuries and all their resources, while the Chiefs themselves have from time to time even risked their lives in this service. Their Highnesses and all their subjects earnestly pray that Almighty God may preserve our beloved King-Emperor and Queen-Empress, and they wish Your Excellency and Lady Minto and all your family every happiness and prosperity.”

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The representatives then presented the *kharitas* from their Chiefs, and the Viceroy addressed them as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you for your address and for the *Murasilas* you have presented to me on behalf of your Chiefs. I deeply appreciate the words of their *kharitas* and the loyal feelings which have prompted them to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Proclamation of 1809. Your deputations have had far to travel and I extend to you a very hearty welcome to Simla.

The years which have rolled by since our ancestors pledged their troth to each other on the banks of the Sutlej have been memorable ones. They joined hands in stormy times, and ever since, through many trials, the Phulkian States and the British Raj have continued to revere their old engagements with an increasing mutual respect. Your rulers have faithfully proved their devotion to the Crown, and your troops have rendered good service to the Empire, whilst British administration has cherished the welfare of your territories. Yet I can scarcely imagine that either the first Lord Minto or the Chiefs of Patiala, Jind and Nabha could ever have dreamt in the May of 1809 that in another hundred years another Lord Minto would be receiving the thanks of the descendants of those very Chiefs for the great Proclamation which in days gone by had practically guaranteed their existence. I am proud, *Gentlemen*, of the memories you have preserved of the services of my great-grandfather. I will never forget that the Phulkian deputation was amongst the first to greet me in Calcutta in 1905 on my assumption of the viceroyalty, and I rejoice to believe that I may now reckon as my personal friends the three great Chiefs you are here to-day to represent.

I would ask you, *Gentlemen*, to convey to Their Highnesses my warm thanks for their congratulations on this memorable anniversary.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT BISHOP COTTON'S  
SCHOOL, SIMLA.

14th Aug. 1909. [His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Minto visited Bishop Cotton's School on Saturday afternoon on the occasion of the annual prize-giving. His Excellency was received by a guard-of-honour formed from the school cadet company. After inspecting the guard-of-honour the Viceroy was shown over the school buildings and then proceeded to the school hall, which had been appropriately decorated and to the dais. The Bishop of Lahore welcomed the Viceroy on behalf of the Governors, saying how pleased they were to have official recognition of the work which hill schools were doing in educating the European population of the country. The Headmaster, the Revd. H. M. Lewis, then read the report, after which His Excellency presented the prizes and addressed the assembly as follows :—]

*Ladies and Gentlemen*,—I must thank the Bishop of Lahore for the very kind welcome he has given to Lady Minto and myself.

This is my first visit to Bishop Cotton's School, and I am very glad to have this opportunity of giving away the school prizes and of listening to the satisfactory report on the general state of the school which Mr. Lewis has just read to us, and the high testimony he, as Head Master, bears to the able assistance he has received from his educational staff. I have no doubt that the fact that the fees were raised at the beginning of the year has, as Mr. Lewis has told us, affected the attendance, but the reputation of the school is so excellent that the number of its boys will, I hope, increase from year to year, till it gains the full strength of the 150 boarders it was originally intended to accommodate. The completion of the Science Laboratory and the greater facilities it will offer to the teaching of practical science should conduce considerably to its future success.

The Anglo-Indian community owes a deep debt of gratitude to Bishop Cotton, for his noble efforts to supply the hill stations of India with the machinery of a sound educational training for the sons of those hard-worked

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public servants for whom, owing to distance and expense, the public schools of England were an impossibility. No one had a better knowledge of the value of public school-life than Bishop Cotton. He served under Arnold at Rugby, and was subsequently Head Master of Marlborough, and it was upon the matured experiences of his early days as a teacher that his aims in India were so largely based. He knew that a public school is a little world in itself, with its ambitions and its disappointments, its generousities and lasting friendships, its personal likes and dislikes, and its little pettinesses. He knew that it was amidst such surroundings that character is formed, and that after all, all the learning in the world without strength of character will never make a man. You boys have to go out into the world to fight the battle of life, and it is at your school that you can best fit yourselves for it. It is at your school that you can best learn the value of hard-working perseverance, of self-control, and of moral and physical courage. Remember you have got to fight for the honour of the school, and then in the struggles which every man must face you will be prepared not to overrate successes or to succumb before adversities, and to value above all other rewards the conviction that you have done your duty. The future before you is full of promise, industrial enterprise is increasing, the demand for every description of technical knowledge is becoming more and more pressing. You will meet with competition on all sides, but you will have greater opportunities than the generation who have gone before you.

I am very glad to have been able to inspect the smart guard-of-honour furnished by your Cadet Company. I was fortunate enough, too, to see the company at a recent field day when they were encamped on Prospect Hill. It does great credit to your Sergeant-Major and Sergeant-Instructor. I can't say I was surprised at your winning the *khud* race, for I had a good look at you on that day, and I never saw more active-looking mountaineers in my life.



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I am glad the school has entered a team for the Durand Tournament. Mr. Lewis says you have no expectation of winning. Well, that does not matter, you have got the spirit to go in and fight, and that means many a victory for you in future years, for which I wish you every success. Bishop Cotton's School has already a history to be proud of, and traditions to look back upon. Instituted by the Bishop of Calcutta, and its foundation-stone laid by John Lawrence, it must always be dear to Simla and to the Punjab, and the Punjab Government will, I am convinced, cherish your interests as they always have done with the full recognition of the great responsibilities the training of the Anglo-Indian youth of this country entails upon them. It has given me great pleasure to be here to-day, and I shall in future years look forward to hearing of the increasing prosperity of the school and the triumphs of its pupils.

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## FAREWELL BANQUET TO LORD KITCHENER.

20th Aug. 1909. [The Members of the Services in Simla are to be congratulated on the excellent banquet they gave to His Excellency Lord Kitchener. It was only in the fitness of things that the representatives of the Services in the dependencies should be foremost in entertaining the renowned soldier who has fought his way up every rung of the ladder of military fame.

His Excellency the Viceroy, in a neat and pithy speech, proposed the toast of the guest of the evening, traversed through his eventful and glorious career, and concluded by a touching appreciation of Lord Kitchener, not only as an official, but as a sincere and hospitable friend.

Lord Kitchener, in his reply, thanked His Excellency and gave full expression to his appreciation of the general regret at his approaching departure. The concluding paragraph of his splendid speech will conclusively prove that, we are not in this country as mere birds of prey and passage, but that the high officials of the State have genuine love for this country and its inhabitants. His Excellency paid a splendid tribute to the aid so generously given by General Sir B. Duff and the

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Headquarter Staff—the rank and file, General officers and others. He also extended his appreciation to the Native Chiefs and the Civil Departments who have assisted him in the discharge of his onerous and responsible duties. His Excellency's régime was one of peace and he laid full emphasis upon this point. Lord Kitchener however is no apostle of peace at any price, but a firm believer of preparedness for war and peace with honour. There can be no doubt that, in spite of all that General Sir Edwin Collen has said, Lord Kitchener will leave the Indian Army as the most efficient unit in the British Forces—a contented and a prosperous servant to the Crown. It is only cant to blame the organization, but Lord Kitchener has been always generous to eulogize the services of his predecessors and own that upon the splendid foundation laid down by them the hero of Khartoum has built up so fine a structure. India will take a regretful farewell of its outgoing War Lord with full expectations that some day he may be spared to return to this country as Viceroy of India unless of course the new defensive scheme compels his stay at the helm of affairs at home.

For the first time in the history of the United Service Club has a Viceroy and Governor-General presided at a Banquet as Patron of that very exclusive Institution, and for the first time also has a Commander-in-Chief been banqueted on his relinquishment of the reins of office in the Empire, direct from Simla.

The great dining room of the Club was arranged so as to accommodate no less than one hundred and sixty guests. The tables were resplendent with scarlet flowers, glittering silver, sparkling glass-ware and snowwhite napery. The service was as excellent as only the manager, Signor Faletti, could make it.

His Excellency the Viceroy was received by a deputation of Members and so was His Excellency Lord Kitchener—the guest of the evening.

The following is a list of gentlemen present at the Banquet :—

Colonel H. A. Abbott, Lieutenant-Colonel A. R. Aldridge, Captain C. F. Anderson, Captain C. F. Aspinall, Major H. H. Austin, Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. Bamber, A. B. Barnard, Esq., Major-General Sir Arthur Barrett, Colonel F. C. Beatson, Major Beatson Bell, Baron Below, Major-General Beresford Lovett, T. D. Berrington, Esq., Brig.-General W. R. Birdwood, Captain C. F. Birney, Captain C. H. Black, Major W. C. Blake, N. Blomefield, Esq., Brig.-General F. G. Bond, W. Bretherton, Esq., E. J. Buck, Esq., Major W. T. Buck, Lieutenant C. H. Bury, Lieutenant G. F. Callaghan, Major H. A. Cameron, Major K. M. Cameron, Major D. Campbell, Lieutenant J. D. Campbell, R. W. Carlyle, Esq., Major G. R. Cassels, Major

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H. B. Champain, Major H. Chandler, Captain J. Charteris, Captain H. Clarke, Major V. C. Climo, J. Coldstream, Esq., Captain H. F. Cooke, E. Cotes, Esq., Colonel H. V. Cox, Captain P. N. Craigie, Captain G. S. Crauford, Lieutenant-Colonel Crooke-Lawless, H. H. Sir Louis Dane, Major H. T. Dennys, A. H. Diack, Esq., Captain J. Dick Cunynham, B. H. Dobson, Esq., Lieutenant-General Sir Beauchamp Duff, Colonel J. Dunlop-Smith, Major A. M. S. Elsmie, Captain B. C. Fellows, M. W. Fenton, Esq., S. Finney, Esq., Captain B. Fisher, F. Freyesleben, Esq., Captain J. E. Gibbs, Major G. Gilbert, Captain C. A. Gill, Major C. H. Gough, Major-General W. duG. Gray, M. M. S. Gubbay, Esq., C. J. Hallifax, Esq., C. H. Harrison, Esq., M. H. Harrison, Esq., Major-General H. M. P. Hawkes, Colonel J. Headlam, Colonel R. S. F. Henderson, H. Hensman, Esq., Captain D. R. Hewitt, Brig.-General H. P. Hickman, T. Hirata, Esq., Captain C. C. H. Hogg, H. Hutchinson, Esq., Captain H. W. Jackson, A. R. Jelf, Esq., Colonel T. Jermyn, J. E. C. Jukes, Esq., Major C. Kaye, A. M. Ker, Esq., J. C. Ker, Esq., J. H. Ker, Esq., A. B. Kettlewell, Esq., Colonel G. Kirkpatrick, Major-General G. C. Kitson, Captain W. Kyrke, C. Latimer, Esq., H. Ledgard, Esq., Captain J. C. Leicester, Rev. H. M. Lewis, Captain S. G. Loch, Colonel C. P. Lukis, Colonel Sir Alfred Mackenzie, W. MacLagan, Esq., Colonel P. S. Macnaghten, Captain E. B. Macnaghten, J. M. Macpherson, Esq., Colonel E. W. S. K. Maconchy, Major-General R. H. Mahon, Captain L. N. Malan, Colonel W. Malleson, R. A. Mant, Esq., Colonel B. W. Marlow, Captain A. H. McCleverty, Major H. B. Melville, A. Meredith, Esq., W. Merk, Esq., Sir William Meyer, Hon'ble J. O. Miller, Captain F. C. Molesworth, A. S. Montgomery, Esq., Colonel J. Moore, Lieutenant J. L. Mowbray, Brigadier-General H. Mullaly, Captain H. A. Murray, Lieutenant-General J. Nixon, A. E. Orr, Esq., Captain G. S. Palmer, Major C. J. Perceval, Captain A. D. G. Ramsay, Colonel J. H. Reid, Doctor Remy, W. C. Renouf, Esq., Captain A. J. Reynolds, L. W. Reynolds, Esq., Sir Herbert Risley, B. Robertson, Esq., Colonel C. T. Robinson, G. D. Rudkin, Esq., Captain J. C. Russell, Colonel C. Rutherford, Major-General R. I. Scallan, Captain Lord Francis Scott, Major B. G. Seton, R. Sheepshanks, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel O. B. Shore, Captain W. F. Shore, Dr. G. C. Simpson, Hon'ble S. P. Sinha, Major E. Skeen, Major A. H. O. Spence, H. G. Stokes, Esq., Colonel A. Tate, G. Taylor, Esq., H. P. Tollinton, Esq., Surg.-Genl. F. W. Trevor, Captain G. Trotter, Major R. E. Vaughan, S. E. Wallace, Esq., Colonel R. Wapshare, Lieutenant-Colonel L. G. Watkins, H. Williamson, Esq., Colonel G. Wilson, Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson, J. B. Wood, Esq., Major-General C. L. Woolcombe,

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H. Nelson Wright, Esq., Captain G. G. E. Wylly and Sir Trevredyn Wynne.

His Excellency rose amidst a thunderous ovation and said :—]

*Your Honour, Your Excellency and Gentlemen*,—A farewell gathering such as this has always a tinge of sadness about it. We cannot but feel that we have assembled to wish good-bye and Godspeed to an old friend, and, speaking for myself, I am all the more oppressed by the conviction that I am quite unable to convey to our guest all the good wishes and all the admiration which his hosts entertain towards him. And yet there is so much to tell about Lord Kitchener that my task ought, I know, to be a comparatively easy one, for his strenuous life has synchronised with the military history of our Empire since the date of his first commission. I confess when I referred to the “War services of officers of the Army”—that record so dear to every soldier—that I felt confused by the multiplicity and variety of our guest’s campaigns, though the Army list, for some unknown reason of its own, takes no cognisance of them prior to 1884, when he had already seen much of war in Europe and in the East. (*Applause.*)

After passing through Woolwich Lord Kitchener joined the Royal Engineers early in 1871, at a peculiarly auspicious moment for the commencement of a soldier’s career, for few periods of history have offered more military opportunities than the decade between 1870-1880. That decade saw two great European wars, the Franco-Prussian and Russo-Turkish Wars, besides the Servian and Montenegrin wars of independence against Turkey, the War of the Carlist succession in Spain which lasted intermittently for several years—the Afghan Campaigns of 1878-79—to say nothing of minor British wars and expeditions,—the Red River, Ashanti, and Natal. It was a great time for soldiers, not only for those who longed for the practical study of their profession, but for soldiers of fortune, partisan leaders, and adventurous spirits of many nationalities. In

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the autumn and winter of 1870 France was still struggling with Germany, McMahon had surrendered at Sedan, Bazaine had capitulated at Metz, Manteuffel had overrun Northern France, and Chanzy and d'Aurelles de Paladine were fighting gallantly around Rouen, LeMans, and Orleans—and with Chanzy's troops, so military tradition relates, was a young Woolwich cadet, named Kitchener. (*Cheers.*) Why he happened to be there, or how he got there, I cannot tell you. There are, I believe, various ways of getting to the front. (*Laughter.*) During the next few years Lieutenant Kitchener was, I think, employed on a survey in Palestine till in the Russo-Turkish War he was again in the field, with the retreating Turkish troops hard pressed by Gourko's victorious army in the winter weather of 1877-78. (*Loud Applause.*)

Then came some years in a Consular capacity in Anatolia till Arabi's revolt in 1882 opened that romantic succession of Egyptian campaigns inseparably connected with Lord Kitchener's name, and through which he fought his way from a Captain in command of Egyptian Cavalry to Sirdar of the Egyptian Army, to avenge the death of Gordon and restore Khartoum and the Soudan to Egypt. (*Cheers.*)

A little more than a year after the battle of Omdurman the Boers entered Natal, and commenced the long series of operations which Lord Kitchener so successfully brought to a close, and during which no doubt many of his hosts to-night served under him, and then after 30 years of almost continuous Foreign Service, a great proportion of it service in the field, he was appointed, with the full confidence of his countrymen, to the high Command which he now holds. He had held it for three years when I came to India as Viceroy,—he will have held it for nearly seven when he leaves us next month. Those years have been very full of incident, associated with great administrative military changes, which, like all such changes, have evoked strongly expressed and contradictory opinions. No one could

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expect that the Redistribution of an Army, such as the Indian Army, or its further preparation for modern war, could be brought about without clashing not only with professional views, but with military sentiment and tradition. Yet I believe that every soldier here to-night will agree with me that Lord Kitchener, by his decentralisation of work hitherto unavoidably congested, and by the devolution which he has inaugurated of the responsibilities of command, has not only placed the higher administration of the Army on a sound and workable footing, but that he will also, on the vacation of his high office, bequeath to India better trained, better equipped, and better paid troops than she has ever possessed before. (*Cheers.*)

The task has been a hard one, and I congratulate the Commander-in-Chief on its successful completion. (*Applause.*)

But it is not merely upon Lord Kitchener's great military achievements that I should wish to dwell to-night. In his departure from amongst us the Government of India, and I know that I am voicing the feelings of my colleagues, are losing the services, not only of an illustrious Commander-in-Chief, but of a far-seeing and sagacious statesman, whilst the Viceroy will miss the loyal support upon which, in times that have certainly not been without their difficulties, he has known he could always steadfastly rely.

And, Gentlemen, as your spokesman this evening, I know I may also say that outside the bureaucratic atmosphere of official life there is a community of warm friends to whom the loss will be greater still—friends who have learned to dissociate the characteristics of the stern soldier from the refined taste which has laid out the gardens of Wildflower Hall, and has so artistically decorated the ever hospitable walls of Snowdon. We shall all miss Your Excellency; the magnificent Army you have so ably commanded, the Civil Service, the official and social world of India will miss you. We rejoice to know that a Field-Marshal's baton

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will mark the success of your military administration, and we shall watch your future in the affectionate hope that, in the full enjoyment of health and strength, you may long be spared to add still further to the splendid services you have already rendered to the Empire. (*Cheers.*)

I ask you, Gentlemen, to join with me in drinking to the health of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief. (*Loud Cheers.*)

[Lord Kitchener arose amidst deafening applause and said :—

*"Your Excellency, Your Honour and Gentlemen—*Rising, as I do to-night to thank Your Lordship for the honour you have done me by presiding on this occasion, as well as for all the many kind things you have said about me, and this great and distinguished company of civilians and soldiers (fellow-servants of the Crown and fellow-workers for the prosperity and advancement of the Indian Empire) for the reception they have given me, it is but natural that my mind should travel back over the period of almost seven years during which I have had the privilege of commanding His Majesty's Forces in India. (*Cheers.*)

"It has not fallen to my lot, as it has to that of many of my distinguished predecessors, to include within my period of command the conduct of any great campaign. The expedition into Tibet and those against the Zakka Khel and Mohmands sum up all the active military operations which India has had to undertake. Perhaps you will expect me to say that I regret this—to mourn that wars, and the opportunities of distinction that wars bring to soldiers, have been so few and so fleeting during the past seven years. But, indeed, my feeling on that subject is the very reverse. It is well that the younger officers should long for war, that they should burn to show their zeal and their devotion in the fiery test of battle. But it would not be well that the Commander-in-Chief who, sitting as he does on the Viceroy's Council, takes his part in shaping the destiny of the Indian Empire, should share or allow himself to be swayed by any such consideration. He must know and feel the truth that for this, as for every nation, peace is the greatest of all blessings—so long as it is peace with honour. Such peace as that can be purchased only by readiness for war. Therefore I hold it to be the duty of every Commander-in-Chief to strive with all his might after that readiness and at the same time, while so striving, to use all his influence against the frittering away of the resources of the country in military

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adventures which are not demonstrably necessary and unavoidable. Those, Gentlemen, are the ideals which I have held before myself during my tenure of the command in India. I know that His Excellency the Viceroy will endorse my claim that my voice in his Council has ever been for peace : that I have striven after readiness for war will not, I think, be questioned.

" But efficiency is not attained without effort and, as Your Excellency has remarked, the years that have gone by have been somewhat strenuous and stormy years. I am glad to think that the clouds have now passed away and that a bright future is in store for Army Administration in India. My successor need have no fear that he will be overworked. He has but to maintain and to develop the system of decentralisation and the devolution to Divisional Commanders of both financial and administrative responsibility which has already proved so successful. He will thus find himself able to devote more time than any of his predecessors to visiting and inspecting troops in all parts of India. To some of you it may seem strange that it should be so, but, as Lord Morley has truly said, ' the measure of a man's responsibilities is not the measure of his work.' And I am sure we all realize that were this not the case the Viceroy's position in this country would be untenable. Sir O'Moore Creagh having spent all his service in the Indian Army we may rest assured that the interest of our Indian troops will be well looked after during his period of command. I hope that, though without his long experience in India, I myself have not failed in any way in this respect. But if I have done so, it has been through no lack of interest in the native officers and men of the Indian Army, nor from any want of admiration for their many high qualities or of appreciation of their devotion to their profession. (*Loud Cheers.*)

" I have said that the last seven years have been somewhat strenuous ones, and they have been so not merely to myself but to all who have served under me in whatever capacity. I took over the command in India under circumstances which rendered great changes inevitable. The war in South Africa, which had just come to an end, had tested the military resources of the Empire as a whole, and had left us with new ideals of all that is comprised in military efficiency, and with new conceptions of imperial unity and imperial organisation for defence. In India, as in England, not merely the Army but the country and the Government were conscious that the time had arrived when all our military arrangements should be overhauled and, where need be, modernised and brought up to date. (*Cheers.*)

" Fortunately, my predecessors had left me as a legacy a splendid



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foundation on which to build. Fortunately, too, it happened that my arrival in India coincided with a period of plenty and of rapidly growing revenues. The funds necessary for the inauguration of improvements could therefore be made available and thus the path leading to reform was cleared. (*Applause.*)

“On such occasions as this, it has not been unusual—I might almost say it has been customary—for the departing official to give a sort of synopsis of his years of administration. I am sure you will be glad to hear that I have no intention of conforming to that custom. Lists of measures carried into effect, or of reforms inaugurated, may find a place in a budget oration or in an official record: they would, I think, be out of place in an after-dinner speech. But perhaps I may be permitted to point out two main principles that have underlain all I have attempted to do in India. The first principle sounds like a platitude but is really all important. It is that each step in Army reform must be founded on an accepted policy based upon admitted premises, arrived at either by experience or by reasoning, and laid down in clear language, understood by those who have to apply it, and intelligible to those to whom it is to be applied.

“The second principle has been, in all things to look ahead: to consider not merely the requirements of the moment but the abiding needs of the country; to build not merely for the present but to lay the foundation for the needs of the future. I think that one of the weaknesses of our English rule in India is that we do not always look sufficiently ahead. We are so much busied with the work of to-day that we are apt to leave to-morrow to take care of itself.

“Your Excellency has quite rightly interpreted the object of my efforts which has been to raise the level of Army Administration not merely for a few years, but continuously; to leave the Army in India with improved organisation, more efficient, healthier, and more ready to take the field at a moment's notice and thus to leave India permanently stronger and safer from attack, and better able to confront the dangers and the vicissitudes of the future. How far I have attained this I must leave to the test of time.

“That, Gentlemen, is all I propose to say in regard to my own record in this country. But were I to say all that I feel in regard to those who have served under me and helped me during my tenure of the command in India, I should detain you longer than I can expect Your patience with me to last. Changes such as have been carried out during the past seven years cannot be brought into effect without the utmost exertion and self-sacrifice on the part of all concerned. Times without number I have called on all ranks in the

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Army, both British and Indian, for such exertion and for such self-sacrifice, and never once have they failed to respond with the utmost zeal and loyalty. My thanks are due to every one of them, from the Generals to the soldiers in the ranks, for the results which have been achieved are due less to myself than to the splendid manner in which the Army, as a whole, has appreciated my intention, has entered into my views, and has carried them into effect. (*Cheers.*)

"True as this is of all, I cannot, on this occasion, help specially mentioning General Sir Beauchamp Duff and my Head Quarters Staff. General Duff has been my right hand man throughout all my work, his assistance has been invaluable to me and his invariably sound advice has kept me from many pitfalls. To speak of the Head Quarter Staff in this connection seems to me like praising and thanking one's own family for we have worked together like a happy family, and if I have not been effusive of my thanks on occasions when they were due, I know that they, one and all, fully understand that it has been from no lack of appreciation but simply that in a family party such thanks are more often taken for granted than expressed. (*Loud Cheers.*)

"There is one also who has left India whom I should like to recall to your memory, as he is in mine, at this moment. General Sir Charles Scott often said that as we had worked so long together we should go together: but that was not to be. He went first and took with him the warmest feeling of esteem, not only of myself, but of all who had worked with, or under, him. (*Cheers.*)

"And it is not only to the soldiers that my thanks are due. I owe them also to my colleagues on the Council and more especially to the various Finance Members with whom it has been my good fortune to be associated, and who, whatever be the traditional dragon-like attitude with which they guard the purse strings of the Government of India, have treated me at least with a reasonableness and with an openness to conviction whenever my pleas for money have been supported by arguments of sufficient strength, for which I offer them my gratitude. With them, too, I would associate the many members of the Indian Civil Service with whom I have been brought into contact, and whom I have always found so ready to place their great knowledge of this country and its peoples at my disposal.

"I also wish to thank the officers of the Postal and Telegraph Departments, and the Staffs of all the railways in India, for the courtesy and attention which have done so much to lessen the tedium of the 65,000 miles of travel which my tours of inspection in India have involved.

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*Visit to Pasteur Institute at Kasauli.*

"Of all the Indian Princes, who have invariably received me with so much honour and hospitality whenever it has been my good fortune to visit their States, I shall ever retain the kindest recollections. Lastly, I would respectfully offer to His Excellency the Viceroy my grateful acknowledgment of the encouragement, support and guidance which I have ever received from him, of the cordial relations which have always existed between us, and of his sympathy with soldiers and their needs. Though His Excellency now wears the black coat of the civilian we know that he has worn in the past not merely the scarlet of military ceremonial but the khaki of active service and that he is still true to his first love. We see that he wears five war medals on his breast and we claim him still as one of ourselves whose practical experience of actual warfare is greater than that of most soldiers. We know too that, though he first saw fighting as a military attaché in the Russo-Turkish war of 1877 and was actively engaged in Egypt, where he was wounded, and in Canada, yet his first experience as a combatant was gained with the Army in India in 1878, and I at least can bear witness how strong his interest in, and his feeling of, comradeship for that Army remain to this day. (*Cheers.*)

"Gentlemen, I most sincerely regret that the time has come for me to leave this vast and wonderful country, with its teeming millions and its many unsolved problems. I deeply regret to leave an army second to none in loyalty to their Sovereign, in discipline, efficiency, and devotion to their profession; and to have to say good-bye to Your Excellency and Lady Minto, who have so invariably treated me with the utmost personal kindness and consideration, to my colleagues, and the many friends I have made in all parts of India, and to you, Gentlemen, who have so hospitably entertained me and who have received me so warmly this evening." (*Tremendous Cheers.*)

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**VISIT TO PASTEUR INSTITUTE AT KASAULI.**

11th Sep. 1909. [Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto, accompanied by Colonels Lukis and Crooke-Lawless, Captains Mackenzie and Atkinson, paid a visit to Kasauli on the 11th September for the purpose of inspecting the Pasteur Institute and the Central Research Institute. The journey was made by motor car.

On arrival at Charing Cross Their Excellencies were received by Colonel Semple, Director of the Research Institute, Captain Harvey,

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Director of the Pasteur Institute, and Captain Carter, Assistant Director. They were then conducted to the Pasteur Institute, where the following address was read by the President, Colonel Lukis :—

*Your Excellency*,—On behalf of the Central Committee of the Association it gives me great pleasure to welcome you on the occasion of your first visit to the Pasteur Institute of India, and to express a hope that this visit will lead to the improvements which are now so urgently required.

The number of patients who obtain the benefits of anti-rabic treatment at this Institute continues steadily to increase, no less than 1,340 cases having been treated in 1908 as against 321 in 1900.

When the Pasteur Institute at Coonoor was opened, it was anticipated that the strain of providing for large numbers of indigent patients at Kasauli would be greatly lessened. This has not been the case. The steady upward rise of numbers year by year continues unchecked, and we have now to face a serious and difficult problem. The buildings, which were erected a few years ago for the accommodation of the poorer Indians, were sufficient at that time, when a total daily attendance of some 50 patients was to be expected. Nowadays the daily attendance is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as great as this, and although the Committee has sanctioned an increase in the number of quarters, it will only suffice for those now attending and leaves no margin for further increase. Neither does it allow for the periodical vacation of the quarters for purposes of disinfection. The space at our disposal moreover is very limited, and overcrowding is inevitable; and the consequences of the introduction of contagious or epidemic disease amongst the patients might be disastrous.

Money is required therefore for the purchase of more ground and for the erection of a better pattern of dwelling-house than that with which we have been obliged to rest satisfied in the past.

This matter concerns indigent Indian patients, who come to us from all parts of India, and who constitute the greater part of our clientele.

There is however a small minority of the patients, who are Indian gentlemen. They are entirely unprovided for; they experience the greatest difficulties and discomforts when they come here for treatment; and they are unanimous in their opinion that some form of hostel should be provided for their accommodation. What is required in this connection is an appeal from gentlemen of recognised position, both Hindu and Mahomedan, and I feel assured that the response to such an appeal would be both prompt and generous.

A third want is the provision in the Institute itself of proper

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waiting room accommodation for patients. The present arrangements leave much to be desired. European and Indian gentlemen are accommodated on benches in the entrance hall. European and Indian ladies have only one small room in common, which is used for inoculations, and there are no separate dressing rooms or lavatories. British soldiers and the poorer Indian patients have to wait their turn in the open verandah even on the coldest and wettest days; there is nowhere else for them to go.

What we urgently require therefore is the provision of a general waiting room for Indian male patients, a special room for Indian ladies, and improvements in the present waiting rooms with the addition of dressing rooms and lavatories. Our proposals will be fully explained to Your Excellency by the Director when he has the honour of showing you over the Institution.

All that I need say now is that the cost of the various improvements I have mentioned is roughly estimated at Rs. 50,000, which is arrived at as follows :—

	Rs.
Purchase of Hardwick and Grange estates	. 20,000
Construction of hostel for Indian gentlemen	. 15,000
Improvements to quarters for indigent Indians	. 10,000
Additional waiting room accommodation .	. 5,000
	<hr/>
TOTAL	. 50,000
	<hr/>

These, Your Excellency, are our present requirements. We hope that to-day's visit will lead to the fulfilment of our desires in this respect, and that Your Excellency will encourage us by your sympathy and support.

His Excellency made the following reply :—]

It has given Her Excellency and myself great pleasure to visit Kasauli. I recognise fully the useful work which is being done here, and India owes a debt of gratitude to Colonel Semple, who is indeed the founder of the Institute, and to Captain Harvey and his staff for the zeal and energy they have displayed in developing its resources to the fullest extent. I assure you all that your efforts towards the improvement of the Institution has my fullest sympathy, and I agree with you that additional waiting room accommodation and the provision of a hostel for Indian gentlemen is urgently necessary, as well as an

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*Imperial Malaria Conference.*

extension of the quarters for indigent Indians and the erection of a better class of house. I feel sure that, as soon as the requirements become known to the public, the necessary funds will be forthcoming, and I trust that ere long success will crown the efforts of the Committee to carry out these urgent reforms.

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IMPERIAL MALARIA CONFERENCE.

[The Conference met at Viceregal Lodge on October 12th, when 12th Oct. 1903. His Excellency the Viceroy presided. The members of the Conference comprise delegates from the various provinces. In welcoming the members His Excellency addressed them as follows:—]

*Gentlemen*,—I must in the first place welcome you heartily to Simla. I assure you I fully appreciate the strain that a break in the every-day work of busy men must always cause—to say nothing of the personal inconvenience of the long journeys many of you have had to undertake. And I recognise too the public spirit of the Local Governments who have deputed officers to represent them in your coming deliberations who could not be easily spared from the important posts they fill.

But, Gentlemen, the subject which I have invited you to Simla to discuss has seemed to me of such vital importance as affecting the health and therefore the welfare of the vast populations of this country, that it could not adequately be dealt with by local effort—or rather that local effort would be far more likely to succeed if the general principles upon which the ravages of malaria are to be combated were discussed by a central assemblage in possession of a full knowledge of all local characteristics and possibilities. There are many conditions which may influence Local Governments in the line of action they may think it best to adopt. But, on the other hand, we appear to me to be confronted with certain facts not only as to the deplorable

*Imperial Malaria Conference.*

results of a terrible sickness, but as to well-ascertained means of counteracting them,—facts which demand the joint consideration of all local authorities and the joint acceptance of the plan of campaign it may be advisable to adopt.

It is with this view that I have convened an Imperial Conference on Malaria. It rests with the Conference to discuss a great hygienic problem, and I have been anxious that in the composition of the Conference the Government of India should have the benefit not only of expert but of administrative and lay opinion. I need hardly tell you that on hygienic matters I am myself a layman, and it is with the utmost humility that I venture to address the galaxy of expert talent I see before me. But still the people of India are laymen like myself—we know of a dread disease and of a dismal death-roll; we read of the weapons with which we are told it can be effectually fought, and we look to you as experts to help us.

I am afraid that very often in this world of ours it requires some sudden crisis to bring home to us the existence of an evil which has long been in our midst. Malaria is no new ailment. The cruel epidemic which raged last autumn in the United Provinces and in the Punjab exceptionally emphasised its dire consequences and has impressed upon public opinion the magnitude of the question with which the Government of India is called upon to deal, yet we must remember that much as the Punjab and the United Provinces have suffered there are many districts in Bengal where the people have died in thousands during past years and where the strength of the population has been undermined. Malaria has been a terrible scourge in many parts of India. I have no wish to weary you with a repetition of statistics which are no doubt well known to all of you, but, speaking generally, the number of deaths ascribed to fever in the whole of India has varied during the last 10 years from about 4 millions to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  millions per annum: and though it

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is admitted that only a portion of these are due to malaria, and though we cannot say with precision what that proportion is, it has been estimated to be from one-fourth to one-fifth of the total number of deaths entered in our returns as due to fever. We may therefore take it that malaria is answerable in an ordinary season for about a million deaths in the year. But last year the number of deaths ascribed to fever was one million more than the normal, and there are grounds for belief that this additional million was due to malaria, and not to the other diseases which go to swell the total returns under the heading of fever. We may therefore assume that the number of deaths from malaria in India are ordinarily one million, but that in an exceptional season they have risen to two millions. If we admit such a conclusion, as I am afraid we must, we cannot disguise from ourselves the magnitude of the evil with which we have to deal. And the loss by death is by no means the whole of that evil. There are the cases of those who contract the disease, but do not die, and the ratio of the number of such cases to the number of deaths is very high. I believe one estimate has placed it as high as 133 cases of sickness to 1 death. If therefore we take it only in the proportion of 50 to 1, we have to admit 100 million cases of fever for last year which were not fatal. It is appalling to think of the suffering and economic loss that such conditions imply—not only direct and immediate loss by the death and sickness of adults, but potential loss in the case of the children. And yet much of this widespread suffering scientists assure us is preventible. The chief problem before the Conference will be to discover by what means that assurance can best be confirmed.

I have already told you, Gentlemen, that I am addressing you entirely as a layman. I am in no way entitled to enter the arena of scientific hygienic discussion, but I gratefully acknowledge the debt of gratitude we owe to the comparatively recent discoveries of the secret history of the world-



*Imperial Malaria Conference.*

wide disease this Conference has assembled to consider. We all know the old theories about malaria,—the Italian derivation of the word illustrates them: *mala aria*, bad air; air tainted by injurious emanations from animal or vegetable matter; noxious exhalations of marshy districts; in other words miasma. It has too been ascribed to the “Sirocco,” that disagreeable wind, the relaxing effects of which are, I am sure, known to any of you who have frequented the shores of the Mediterranean. Those were the beliefs of old days, and it was not till 1880 that Laveran, a French Army Surgeon, discovered the malarial parasite, and his views were not accepted until they were confirmed some years later by Italian scientists. In 1894 Sir Patrick Manson suggested that the malaria parasite probably had some kind of mosquito as an intermediate host which was necessary for its development, and it was only in 1897 that, acting on that suggestion, Major Ross made the brilliant discovery which I may perhaps venture to say solved the problem of the etiology of malaria and earned for him not only the admiration of scientists, but the thanks of the world at large. Major Ross’s discovery has been put to practical test in Italy, Panama, Ismailia, and at other places and there would seem to be no reason to doubt that, if man can be protected from the bites of infected mosquitoes, he will not contract malaria. This however confronts us with another problem—is it always possible to exterminate a particular kind of mosquito from malarious localities? The answer I venture to think rests rather with the administrator than with the doctor and man of science. I am afraid, Gentlemen, I have not the hardihood to enter into the controversial atmosphere which surrounds the question—I must leave it to you to decide to what extent the malaria mosquito has been personally vanquished in the past or can be utterly defeated in the future. Much must depend upon the development of sanitation, upon carefully considered organisation, and last, but not least, upon financial

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possibilities. But however that may be, whilst readily admitting the value of the great discoveries to which I have referred, we are mercifully, in our struggle with malaria, not merely confined to the direction of an anti-mosquito campaign. We have other means of attack at our disposal. For there is ample evidence of the marvellous results due to the administration of quinine as a prophylactic—I of course mean as a prophylactic administered upon systematic and well-thought-out lines. Dr. Osler—Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford—in a letter to the *Times* in the spring of this year, told us his experiences of preventive treatment of malaria in Canada. The same treatment has also met with marked success on the Panama Canal, whilst in Italy in malarial districts quinine is distributed in the shape of comfits and chocolates. Dr. Bentley has written in the same sense of his experiences in India, and Lieutenant-Colonel Braide has told us of the very satisfactory results due to prophylactic treatment in the prisons of the Punjab under his charge. So that the Conference will have before it two important facts, Major Ross's discovery of the actual cause of malaria, and the evidence, which I think we may assume to be incontrovertible, that, where quinine can be systematically administered as a prophylactic, a very general immunity from malaria will be the result. It will rest with the Conference to decide by what means the knowledge of these two great facts may best be utilised. The practical application of that knowledge must involve the consideration of many points of detail upon which it would be useless for me to enter to-day, but which will require much careful and searching enquiry—as a basis for which the Conference will, I am glad to say, have before it an able paper by Colonel Leslie embodying his proposals for the systematic investigation into the possible prevention and treatment of fevers.

Gentlemen, I have only attempted to outline the general conditions, as they appear to me, surrounding the

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*Reformed Councils.*

consideration of the problem with which you will have to deal—a problem of Imperial magnitude—inasmuch as it affects the health and happiness of this great country—the successful solution of which must depend upon the united efforts of the administrations and varied interests which you have assembled here to represent. It is my earnest hope that the results of your deliberations may—by the inauguration of a campaign against what we now know to be a preventible disease—confer a great boon upon the people of India, and though the campaign must of necessity be long and hard fought, I open this Conference in the firm belief that it will eventually be crowned with success.

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#### REFORMED COUNCILS.

22nd Oct. 1909. [At the last meeting of the Legislative Council held at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, to transact ordinary business, His Excellency the Viceroy addressed Hon'ble Members as follows :—]

I do not know if my Hon'ble Colleagues have realised that to-day's meeting of Council is the last occasion upon which we shall assemble in accordance with the organisation which has existed for nearly 48 years.

The first Legislative Council met in January 1862, in the time of Lord Canning, and to-day we can look back upon the administration of 13 Viceroys who, with the assistance of the ablest colleagues that the Indian Civil Service and the Army could produce, have ruled India for nearly half a century.

In 1892, as you are aware, the original Councils and the character of their composition were considerably altered, and we are now about to make a still further advance in our machinery under the Indian Councils Act of 1909, based upon greatly enlarged Councils and a much wider recognition of elective principles. We may, I think, look back with just pride on the great services our predecessors have

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*State Banquet at Alwar.*

rendered to India always under the strain of very heavy work and often in the face of great difficulties, and I earnestly hope that we may be able to follow worthily in their footsteps supported by the ever-increasing trust and assistance of the people of India.

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STATE BANQUET AT ALWAR.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto accompanied by 26th Oct. 1909, the Personal Staff left Simla by Landau on the morning of the 25th October 1909 on the commencement of His Excellency's Autumn Tour. This tour was to comprise visits to many important Native States, and the first of these, Alwar, was reached on the morning of the 26th October. A brilliant reception was accorded to Their Excellencies and evidence of marked loyalty was abundant.

In the evening of the same day His Highness the Maharaja entertained Their Excellencies and a large number of guests at a Banquet in the City Palace which was brilliantly lighted and decorated.

In greeting Their Excellencies His Highness said :—

*"Your Excellencies,*—Allow me to greet you with a cordial welcome to the capital of my State on your first entrance into Rajputana during your official tour in our province; and we take delight in welcoming Your Excellency not only as the representative of His Most August Majesty the Emperor of India, whom we have been accustomed to regard with feelings of loyalty and esteem, but we welcome you also personally as the champion of the cause of India of the future.

*"We greet you as one whose sympathy and devotion for India's interests have, I think, been demonstrated in practical form, and whose respect and regard for the privileges and enhancement of the prosperity of the Indian States has, I am certain, been silently but surely valued and much appreciated by those concerned.*

*"We were hoping Your Excellency would have been able to pay us a longer visit last March, but the Indian reforms which were then under the consideration of Government presumably necessitated the cancelling of your proposed visit, which was a source of much disappointment to us all.*

*"However, we are entertaining you now with no less assurances of sincere pleasure, and during this interval the reforms also have taken a more practical shape, thus enabling those who are interested in them*

*State Banquet at Alwar.*

to study the situation which is calculated to further the progress and prosperity of this country.

"India is now going through a state of transformation, and its deep slumber has been awakened by the light of education and travel, and partly by the radical march of events in the East.

"Now has come the time when India, once the greatest of civilized nations, is going to attempt to rebuild some of its portions that have tumbled into decay, and when, if it is to eventually claim its position once more alongside those nations who are now on their heights, it must need help and guidance in order to ensure its steady and certain progress.

"This task of guidance has been ordained by Providence to be placed in the hands of the British nation, whose King to-day rules the mighty dominions over which the sun never sets.

"Surely no task has ever fallen upon a nation or a king in history which is greater or grander in its aspect—no task of which a nation could be more rightly proud.

"All this experience of many centuries which has taken so long to weld together this great Empire is now being utilized for the benefit of this great continent of India, and it is left to the civilization of this country to take advantage of this opportunity or to lose it, for the purposes of rebuilding itself under such just and sympathetic rule.

"Since the time of the great wars of the Mahabharat the old and refined civilization of poor India had been losing its foothold which was so strongly based on its religion of elevating and life-giving principles and the internal disorders and foreign invasions since had scattered its unity until it was on the verge of degradation and decay.

"It was at such a time when the destinies of the country were at their lowest ebb that its future fate was placed in the hands of the British people.

"What India would have otherwise been to-day seems almost difficult to even imagine, but it is no flattery to state that what we see of India to-day is the result of the tutorship of its new and welcome guardian.

"I think right-minded and self-respecting Indians need not be ashamed of such a record of guardianship—indeed they can take this opportunity of helping and not hindering the cause of the rulers of this country; helping the rulers to raise India to the level of the other great nations of the world in points of civilization and otherwise.

"Your Excellency has now been at the helm controlling the affairs of this vast Empire for 4 years, and during this time we have been

*State Banquet at Alwar.*

much interested in studying the various reforms which you have initiated with the intention of accelerating the progress of this country.

"We have admired the sympathy and courage with which you had persisted in the face of storms and obstacles to embark on schemes intended to help the people of India, and our hearts have gone out to our great and popular statesman, the present Secretary of State for India, in his resolute determination to introduce schemes for the benefit of India in the face of dark clouds appearing on its horizon.

"But while we thus appreciate your kindness and firmness in extending your helping hand to those who are in need, we are also in complete accord with you in your courage and firmness to suppress with your other hand the recent crimes against the law and the acts of miscreants calculated to retard the harmonious and peaceful progress of the country.

"We feel glad, however, to think that in most cases they have only been the acts of a few fanatics who have not only deservedly received their due punishment, but have also aroused expressions of strong disapproval from their own countrymen.

"The future of India must depend a great deal on the hands that are shaping its destiny, but it must also depend in no small degree on the people themselves.

"Education will, I think, play a large part in its future progress, and it is on how the people digest it and apply it to the problems of life that it will depend how rapid that progress will be.

"The problem of the future of India is one which I am sure haunts the minds of many people, and I cannot claim myself to be an exception to the rule, for I think with the question of the future of India also depends the question of the future of the Native States with which I am more directly concerned.

"The two are so closely connected to each other, and the one question is so dependent on the other that I think they are inseparable.

"But so long as the education that is given to the children of this country is based on life-giving and man-making principles and the hands that are shaping its destiny are as just, gentle and sympathetic as they have been, specially so during Your Excellency's term of office, I don't think the well-wishers of this great Indian Empire need be over-anxious about its peaceful and brilliant future.

"I always take delight in ascribing the notions of loyal attachment to the throne and the love of peace and subordination to law among the great masses of the Hindus to the teachings they have received through the old schools or through their own societies regarding those noble principles of our religion.

*State Banquet at Alwar.*

"I am personally of doubt, though I am open to correction, if the purely technical or literary or even degree-taking education can raise that firm foundation of character so essential for the well-being of a race.

"I have no doubt that this important subject has already engaged Your Excellency's kind attention, and I would dearly like to see the day when a greater share of moral and religious education was introduced into at least our lower standard schools.

"Your Excellency, often when I have meditated and pondered over these questions, I have encountered a great many obstacles and difficulties which I fully realise must, as in all other large schemes, come in the way, but a great deal could be done, I have no doubt through influence and encouragement directly or indirectly.

"I will not trespass on your time any longer with this subject—this is no occasion to formulate schemes or to discuss their merits—I merely make these suggestions with due deference, and hope that Your Excellency may be good enough to give them a kind thought some day which will make me grateful.

"The visit of Your Excellencies to my State on this occasion has been very short, and I could have wished that I might have had an opportunity of showing you some sport in our jungles, but we must look forward for that occasion at some future date.

"It will be a pleasure to me to-morrow to show Your Excellency my Imperial Service Troops, in which I take much pride and interest, and I must thank you once more for having so kindly accepted my invitation to open our new Alexandra Hospital, which I hope will be an institution worthy of the name it bears.

"Your Excellency, I have refrained on this occasion from alluding to any points of the administration of my State, as I would not like to trespass further on your time.

"I am not certain either if this would be a suitable subject for me to allude to on this occasion.

"I will therefore on behalf of the 800,000 who have cordially welcomed you now wish Your Excellencies a pleasant tour in our old and historical but usually rather dry and dusty land of Rajputana.

"Your Excellency, it may have been a little dusty at times, and it may have been dry, but we love this old land of ours none the less. We love it for its glorious past, we love it for its steadfast adherence to its old traditions and privileges alongside its preparedness to advance along with the march of time—above all we love it because during Your Excellency's tour in India you will not come across a province or a people who are more conscious of their pledges and of their country's traditions, or who are more loyal to the King.

*State Banquet at Alwar.*

“Ladies and Gentlemen, let me ask you to join with me in drinking to the health, prosperity and happiness of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Minto.”

His Excellency replied :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I deeply appreciate the welcome Your Highness has extended to me on behalf of yourself and of your State on the occasion of my first official visit to Rajputana as the Representative of the King-Emperor. And I heartily thank Your Highness for the kind words you have addressed to me personally. The welfare of the Indian States has, as you have said, been a constant care to me, and it is a pleasure to me to believe that I may reckon many of their rulers amongst my warm personal friends. I much regret that my official visit to Rajputana has been so long deferred. I had hoped that it would have been possible in the autumn of last year, but there was then unfortunately still cause for anxiety as to the effects of famine, and also, as Your Highness has very truly recognised, the reforms which have been so long under consideration have certainly not tended to facilitate even short absences from the seat of Government.

Those reforms are now on the eve of being definitely launched. I hope they will be received by the Princes and people of India as a just response to the awakened aspirations to which Your Highness has alluded in such earnest words. I hope that they may tend to revive and to perpetuate the prosperity of India and at the same time to foster Indian loyalty towards that great administration of which the King-Emperor is the head.

Your Highness is very right in saying that the success of the future will largely depend upon the direction and control of education. That subject is a very big one far too serious to discuss on an occasion such as this, but I agree that it would be fatal to the upbringing of coming generations if the noble principles of religious and moral training which go to form the character of nations should



*State Banquet at Alwar.*

be lost sight of in an exaggerated competition for the brilliancy of mere literary attainment. But the direction of early religious training must rest largely with the people themselves. I hope they will not lose sight of it. It is one of those problems in which it seems to me the rulers of Native States can do much to assist their countrymen—they have internal administration in their own hands—they can establish an educational control which a British administrator of a different race and creed could not dare to inaugurate—they know and can sympathise with the traditions and forms of worship of their own people—they can attempt to direct and to influence the principles of education in realms into which the Government of India would be very wrong to intrude, but where the infinite mischief of the loss of religious guidance in early youth is already becoming more and more evident.

Native States have added many glorious pages to the history of India. They can render her still more brilliant services in the future by helping to consolidate the greatest Empire the world has ever seen. The ruling Chiefs of India have much in their own hands. It is to them that the Viceroy must look for a sympathetic rule adapted to the populations of their territories. Their interests are identical with those of the British Raj, and I am sure Your Highness knows with what pleasure I shall always welcome any demand from them for assistance or advice.

Your Highness may well be proud of representing a long line of distinguished Rajput ancestors, the warriors of old days whose descendants in modern times have stood loyally shoulder to shoulder with British troops in many a hard fought field and who now furnish the two magnificent Imperial Service Regiments which Your Highness commands, and which I much look forward to seeing on parade to-morrow. Indeed I only wish I had time at my disposal for seeing much more of the resources and the administration of Your Highness's State, and some opportunity too,

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*State Banquet at Jaipur.*

of partaking in the sport for which your jungles are so celebrated. But my time is not my own, and I can only ask you to express to your subjects my recognition of their loyal welcome and my regrets that my visit to them has been so hurried. And Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen, I cannot sufficiently thank you for the cordiality of your reception of Lady Minto and myself this evening on our crossing the threshold of Rajputana.

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STATE BANQUET AT JAIPUR.

[On the evening of the 29th October, during the course of His 29th Oct. 1909. Excellency the Viceroy's stay at Jaipur, His Highness the Maharaja entertained Their Excellencies at a Banquet in the Palace, which was brilliantly illuminated.

In welcoming Their Excellencies the Maharaja assured them of the keen personal pleasure which it gave him to entertain them at Jaipur. Referring to the political situation, the Maharaja paid a high tribute to Lord Minto's statesmanship. He said: "When Your Excellency came to India, the political atmosphere was surcharged with elements of discontent and unrest, feelings new and alien to the country. In some parts there was a sense of dissatisfaction on account of the supposed flouting of aspiration on the part of Government. This created in inexperienced minds, overwrought by seditious teachings, violent feeling, which found expression in crimes and outrages hitherto unknown in the land. The misdeeds of these perverted youths startled all right-thinking men and produced a feeling of abhorrence and righteous indignation all over the country, showing thereby in an unmistakable manner how deep-seated was the faith of the people at large in the moderation, justice and impartiality of the British Government. Your Excellency at this juncture, undeterred by adverse criticism, adopted a line of action which has, I think, given general satisfaction, and I trust I may be allowed to express my warmest admiration of Your Excellency's attitude throughout, of your firm determination to suppress sedition combined with a kindly sympathy for the just and legitimate aspirations of all true and loyal subjects."

His Highness dwelt on the unfortunate neglect of religious instruction in the educational system of the country, but felt confident that His

*State Banquet at Jaipur.*

Excellency's wise policy would steer the vessel of State safely across the shoals, and bring all back once more to the safe anchorage that they had enjoyed under British rule. The Maharaja touched lightly on his own public acts in regard to sedition and assured the Viceroy that the British Government would always have the most loyal and unhesitating co-operation from the Jaipur State, and also, he had not the least doubt, from his brother Chiefs in India. He thanked the Government for allowing him to share in the construction and the profits of the Nagda-Muttra Railway, which was about to be opened, and the Resident, Colonel Showers, for much valuable help, and concluded with a warm welcome to Their Excellencies and Lady Eileen Elliot.

His Excellency in reply said :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—Your Highness has reminded me of our first meeting at Agra nearly two years ago when you so kindly pressed me to visit your State, and I can assure Your Highness it has been a continual disappointment to me that owing to stress of circumstances my visit to Jaipur and to Rajputana has been so long delayed. But now that I am at last able to accept Your Highness's hospitality, I cannot sufficiently recognise the brilliancy of your welcome and the manifestations of loyalty and attachment to the King-Emperor with which Your Highness and your subjects have greeted me on all sides as His Majesty's representative. I am glad indeed to hear that my visit coincides with a time of prosperity in your State and with a promising agricultural outlook for the future.

Your Highness, together with all those who are interested in the welfare of this great country, has watched the political situation with grave anxiety, and you tell me that when I took up the reins of government in India the political atmosphere was electrically charged with many dangerous elements. The air was sultry—every one felt it. There were many reasons for it—the great change which had gradually made itself felt throughout the Eastern world, together with aspirations, often impossible, engendered by an advancing education, which though it has done much for

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*State Banquet at Jaipur.*

India has lacked moral direction and control, combined to unhinge impressionable young minds and to foster unjustifiable suspicions against the aims of Government, culminating in crimes and outrages which sent a thrill of alarm through India. But I have always maintained, and I shall always continue to do so, that the mad acts of a few mistaken fanatics are totally insufficient to justify for a moment accusations of disloyalty against a whole people,—and I have always refused to admit, and I shall continue to do so, that the existence of unreasoning and infamous plots should be allowed to disqualify the people of India for the bestowal of administrative reforms to which they justly believed themselves to be entitled and the introduction of which they had good reasons to hope for. I trust we have passed through the bad days. The atmosphere seems clearer and fresher—but that there are rocks and shoals ahead we are well aware,—the hand at the helm must be firm and steady or we shall court disaster—there is still plenty of anxiety for the captain of the ship.

Your Highness and your brother Chiefs throughout India have done much to relieve that anxiety. There is, I know, no sedition in Your Highness' State. I do not believe it could ever find a foothold here. But Your Highness's recent manifesto has spoken out for yourself and for your people—and as the captain of the ship I thank you for it.

Jaipur has been free from seditious agitation. I hope she may always be so, and that she will continue to profit by the steady growth of her internal resources under the able rule and direction of her Chief.

I congratulate Your Highness on your wise appreciation of the benefits to be derived from the opening of the first broad gauge railway in Rajputana. The Nagda-Muttra Railway, as you have said, runs through a considerable portion of your territory, and will undoubtedly largely contribute to open up and facilitate trade, and to increase the earnings of your people.

*Visit to Tonk.*

And Your Highness, whilst talking of railway matters, I cannot omit the satisfaction I feel, that the recent decision of the Government of India to compensate Native States as in British India for land taken up for railway purposes has been brought about during my term of office.

Your Highness, Lady Minto and I will carry away with us the warmest recollection of the magnificence of your welcome to us, the perfection of the arrangements for our comfort, the beauty of your splendidly laid out city, and the loyal enthusiasm of your subjects who everywhere lined our route—our only regret is that it has not been in our power to trespass further on Your Highness's generous hospitality.

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## VISIT TO TONK.

30th Oct. 1909. [During the course of His Excellency this Viceroy's visit to Jaipur, His Excellency took the opportunity of paying a flying visit to the Nawab of Tonk. His Excellency went by motor to Tonk, a distance of 60 miles, along a good road. The crossing of the river Banas was a picturesque scene made bright by the State elephants and barges. The party proceeded to the guest-house, and visits were exchanged between His Excellency and His Highness the Nawab. On the return visit His Highness presented an address of welcome which read as follows :—

*May it please Your Excellency,*—This is the first occasion that my State has been honoured with a visit from the representative of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor in India, and it is with feelings of the deepest gratitude that I offer Your Excellency a most hearty welcome to my capital. My feelings on the occasion are mingled ones—that of gratitude for the kindness Your Excellency has shown in coming to an uninteresting and out-of-the-way place like Tonk, and that of regret for the inconvenience Your Excellency must have suffered in coming here; I feel this all the more because owing to the short stay of Your Excellency, it has not been possible to entertain Your Excellency as I could have wished to do. I must also add my regret that it was not possible for Her Excellency Lady Minto to come to Tonk and honour my capital with her presence to-day.

As Your Excellency must already be aware, my State has been passing through a state of financial crisis, but now I am glad to inform Your Excellency that the crisis is almost over and a brighter

*Visit to Tonk.*

era of financial prosperity is setting in, and with the assistance and advice of British officers, so ungrudgingly offered, I hope to materially add to the resources of my State and the prosperity of my people in the near future.

Before closing this brief address I would once more express my personal obligation to Your Excellency for the trouble Your Excellency has taken to undertake this very tedious and unpleasant journey to this land of no railways, roads or any other charms; I have no gorgeous palaces and such like, but I have a heart overflowing with gratitude at the kindness Your Excellency has shown in paying a brief visit to my capital notwithstanding so many other engagements.

Finally I would close this address with a prayer for the long life, health and prosperity of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor and the continuance and permanence of British Government in India and that this country may always be fortunate in securing such kind-hearted and noble Viceroys as Your Excellency.

The Viceroy in reply said :—]

*Your Highness*,—I sincerely thank you for the courteous and kind words of your address. I assure you the journey from Jaipur has not caused me the slightest inconvenience.

I am only too glad of this opportunity to visit Your Highness and your State. It is, I believe, the first time a Viceroy has been to Tonk, and I much regret that it has been impossible for Lady Minto to accompany me.

I have heard with great pleasure of the improvement in your revenues. There would appear to be every indication of future prosperity; and I am glad also to know of the excellent relations which exists between you and your British Political Officers, and I trust that they will be of every assistance to you in your administration. It is refreshing to hear that you have had no troubles from the political agitation which has so unfortunately manifested itself in some parts of India, and I very fully recognize the loyal efforts yourself and your Durbar have made to ensure that if any such seditious movement occurs in Tonk it will be very promptly dealt with.

Your Highness is, I am told, very wisely doing much to further the interests of the Mayo College and is encouraging

*State Banquet at Udaipur.*

the attendance there of your relatives. It is an immense thing that the rising generation should not only receive a sound education, but should be imbued with all the manly feelings, which are the basis of strength of character, and will enable them in future years to interest themselves in the public affairs of their own country.

This training they will especially receive at the Mayo College.

I have heard that the young men who are there from Tonk have already distinguished themselves, not only in the class-room but in the playground. I am sure Your Highness will find that the basis of a well-educated and disciplined aristocracy will prove one of the best safeguards and surest guarantees of progress and enlightenment that your State can possess. I deeply appreciate your expressions of loyalty towards the King-Emperor, and I shall carry away with me the pleasantest recollection of my visit to Your Highness and to Tonk.

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STATE BANQUET AT UDAIPUR.

3rd Nov. 1909. [On the afternoon of the 3rd November, during his visit to Udaipur, the Viceroy laid the foundation of the Minto Darbar Hall which is to be added to the palace. Cordial speeches expressive of personal esteem were made by Lord Minto and the Maharana. An adjournment was made to the armoury and the old palace, and Lady Minto then went on to the Walter Zenana Hospital, in which she showed the greatest interest. In the evening a banquet was given by the Maharana. The party proceeded by boat to the palace. The buildings were brilliantly illuminated. The lines of the palace were picked out with myriads of lights, and structures of lights rose out of the lake casting their reflections on the still waters. It was a scene never to be forgotten. After the banquet the Maharana proposed the health of Their Excellencies in the following terms:—

*"Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,—*Since Your Excellency arrived in India I had each year hoped to have the pleasure of meeting Her Excellency Lady Minto and yourself at Udaipur, but each year I was disappointed as a visit to Rajputana could not be

*State Banquet at Udaipur.*

included in Your Excellency's tour programme. During the past hot weather when I had gone to Hardwar on a pilgrimage I was able to pay Your Excellency a visit. But on this occasion the pleasure the meeting gave me has been greatly added to by the presence of Her Excellency Lady Minto and Lady Eileen Elliot here in my capital together with Your Excellency.

"Your Excellency's visit to Udaipur has been a most auspicious one. The rainfall this year has been extremely favourable, indeed it has been one of the best monsoons of which we have any record. All the lakes and tanks in the State have filled, thereby adding greatly to the beauty of the scenery.

"I had intended for two or three years, before last cold weather, to pay Your Excellency a visit, but knowing that your time is much taken up with weighty affairs of State, I thought it better to put off carrying out my intention.

"Your Excellency has been confronted in India with many troubles and anxieties. Certain evil-disposed persons, using as their weapons the ignorant among the people, have endeavoured to ferment sedition against the British Government, and they have committed some dastardly acts which have recoiled to their own detriment upon the heads of the very persons who committed them.

"The policy and measures adopted by Your Excellency for stopping those crimes are sweeping away from the skies of India the black clouds which have obscured them. I am confident that these evil deeds and intentions which are not very widespread will not be able to bear fruit over the whole of India, and that they will never be able to spread in the Indian States. It gives me pleasure to be able to assure Your Excellency that in my State, at all events, such things will never be permitted to exist.

"I wish to thank Her Excellency Lady Minto for so kindly having taken the trouble to inspect the Walter Zenana Hospital.

"Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would ask you to drink to the health of my illustrious guests, Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto and Lady Eileen Elliot."

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Your Highness*,—I have listened with sincere pleasure to the words you have addressed to me as the representative of the King-Emperor, and at the same time I am deeply grateful for the cordiality and magnificence of your welcome to Lady Minto, Lady Eileen and myself as your personal guests. I have some advantage over my predecessors



*State Banquet at Udaipur.*

in that I think they each of them met Your Highness for the first time on their visits to your State, whereas I have had the good fortune to renew the acquaintance I was so glad to make at Dehra Dun last spring.

It is delightful to be here at last—I say at last, because I can assure Your Highness I had hoped to propose this visit to you long ago if circumstances had permitted it.

It is delightful to have wandered along the battlements and amongst the ruins of Chitor, full of the romance of an historic past and of the memories of the brave deeds of Rajput warriors and the heroic self-sacrifice of Rajput Princesses and to find oneself in the midst of the hills and lakes of your beautiful Udaipur, all the more so at a time when, as Your Highness tells me, the blessings of rain have raised the spirits of your people and when the land is full of future promise.

Your Highness has alluded to the anxieties with which I have been confronted during my period of office, to the attempts which have been made to misrepresent the intentions of British administration and to the dastardly crimes which have been committed under the plea of political necessity, and which have aroused the detestation of the people of India against their perpetrators. I trust, however, that as Your Highness has said the skies of India are beginning to clear and the dark clouds to pass away. I am glad to know that loyal Rajputana has been free from the poison which has been scattered elsewhere, and that the ruling Chiefs of India, by the precautions they have taken to bar the entrance of sedition into their possessions, have added still further to the many proofs they have given in past years of their devotion and loyalty to the Crown.

They have shown their determination to safeguard and maintain that identity of interests between the Imperial Government and themselves, upon the mutual recognition of which the future history of India will be so largely moulded.

They have not hesitated manfully to proclaim their

*State Banquet at Udaipur.*

loyalty in times of trouble, and they have contributed to the military strength of their country that splendid body of Imperial Service Troops, which is sufficient evidence to the world that they realise all that solidarity of Empire implies.

I congratulate Your Highness on the inauguration of a squadron of Imperial Service Cavalry, and though Your Highness may possibly have experienced the usual difficulties in the organisation of a new corps, I am convinced that when it has been fully formed it will uphold the best traditions of your warlike ancestors. Your Highness may rest assured that the many loyal indications the ruling Chiefs of India have given of their eagerness to support the Supreme Government have not only been warmly appreciated but have done much to shape the policy of that Government and of its officers in their relations to Native States.

It is sometimes asked by ruling Chiefs as well as by the public in India and in Europe what our policy towards Native States is.

I can only tell you that the basis of that policy was laid down in Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1858 and repeated in the Coronation message of His Majesty the King-Emperor. In 1858 Queen Victoria addressed the Princes of India as follows :—" We hereby announce to the Native Princes of India that all Treaties and engagements made with them by, or under the authority of, the Honourable East India Company are by us accepted and will be scrupulously observed ; and we look for the like observance on their part. We desire no extension of our present territorial possessions ; and while we will admit no aggression upon our dominions or our rights to be attempted with impunity, we shall sanction no encroachment on those of others. We shall respect the rights, dignity, and honour of Native Princes as our own ; and we desire that they, as well as our own subjects, should enjoy that prosperity and that social advancement which can only be secured by internal peace and

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good government." And 44 years later the King-Emperor wrote:—"To all my Feudatories and subjects throughout India I renew the assurance of my regard for their liberties, of respect for their dignities and rights, of interest in their advancement, and of devotion to their welfare, which are the supreme aim and object of my rule, and which, under the blessing of Almighty God, will lead to the increasing prosperity of my Indian Empire, and the greater happiness of its people." In pursuance of these pledges our policy is with rare exceptions one of non-interference in the internal affairs of Native States. But in guaranteeing their internal independence, and in undertaking their protection against external aggression, it naturally follows that the Imperial Government has assumed a certain degree of responsibility for the general soundness of their administration and would not consent to incur the reproach of being an indirect instrument of misrule. There are also certain matters in which it is necessary for the Government of India to safeguard the interests of the community as a whole as well as those of the Paramount Power, such as railways, telegraphs, and other services of an Imperial character. But the relationship of the Supreme Government to the States is one of suzerainty.

Your Highness will, I know, recognise the difficulty that must exist in adhering to an uniform policy owing to the varying conditions of different States. It is this diversity of conditions which renders so dangerous any attempt at complete uniformity and subservience to precedent. I have therefore made it a rule to avoid as far as possible the issue of general instructions and have endeavoured to deal with questions as they arose with reference to existing treaties, the merits of each case, local conditions, antecedent circumstances, and the particular stage of development, feudal and constitutional, of individual principalities.

In a word, the object of my Government has been to interpret the pronouncement of two successive Sovereigns

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as inculcating—in accordance with the eloquent words of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in his speech at the Guildhall after his return from India—a more sympathetic and therefore a more elastic policy. The foundation-stone of the whole system is the recognition of identity of interests between the Imperial Government and Durbars and the minimum of interference with the latter in their own affairs.

I have always been opposed to anything like pressure on Durbars with a view to introducing British methods of administration,—I have preferred that reforms should emanate from the Durbars themselves, and grow up in harmony with the traditions of the State. It is easy to overestimate the value of administrative efficiency—it is not the only object to aim at, though the encouragement of it must be attractive to keen and able Political Officers, and it is not unnatural that the temptation to further it should, for example, appeal strongly to those who are temporarily in charge of the administration of a State during a minority, whether they are in sole charge or associated with a State Council. Their position is a difficult one—it is one of peculiar trust—and though abuses and corruption must of course as far as possible be corrected, I cannot but think that Political Officers will do wisely to accept the general system of administration to which the Chief and his people have been accustomed. The methods sanctioned by tradition in States are usually well adapted to the needs and relations of the ruler and his people. The loyalty of the latter to the former is generally a personal loyalty, which administrative efficiency, if carried out on lines unsuited to local conditions, would lessen or impair.

I can assure Political Officers I am speaking in no spirit of criticism. No one has a greater admiration of their services than I have. I believe that they themselves very fully recognise that the necessities of the times have somewhat changed. I believe that they will agree with me. I know that they will loyally endeavour to carry out my

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views. My aim and object will be, as it has always been, to assist them, but I would impress upon them that they are not only the mouthpiece of Government and the custodian of Imperial policy, but that I look to them also to interpret the sentiments and aspirations of the Durbars. It is upon the tactful fulfilment of their dual functions that the Supreme Government and Chiefs must mutually rely. It is upon the harmonious co-operation of Indian Princes and Political Officers that so much depends—co-operation which must increase in value as communications develop and new ideas gain ground. We are at the commencement of a new era of thought in India. We shall have many new problems to face as years go on, problems surrounded with difficulties and anxieties, in the solution of which I trust that the ruling Chiefs of India will ever bear in mind that the interests of themselves and their people are identical with those of the Supreme Government.

Your Highness, I shall always look back upon my visit to Udaipur with many recollections of your magnificent hospitality, the romantic traditions of Rajputana and the enchantment of the palaces, lakes and islands of Marwar.

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## STATE BANQUET AT GWALIOR.

6th Nov. 1909. [His Excellency the Viceroy and party reached Gwalior on the 6th November and met with a brilliant and enthusiastic reception. During the day State visits were exchanged, and in the evening Their Excellencies were entertained to a State Banquet, at which a very large number of guests were present. After the Viceroy's health was drunk, His Highness the Maharaja in greeting Their Excellencies paid a strong personal tribute to Lord and Lady Minto and dwelt on the firm and enlightened views by which the Viceroy had met the aspirations of his British Indian subjects.

The Viceroy replied as follows :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I thank Your Highness for the graceful words you have addressed to me

*State Banquet at Gwalior.*

as the representative of the King-Emperor, and for the warmth of your friendly welcome to Lady Minto and myself. I can assure Your Highness that any hospitality we have been able to offer you, has been more than repaid by the many acts of kindness we have received from yourself. This is my second visit to Gwalior, and I am under the impression that on the last occasion on which I was fortunate enough to be here I trespassed upon Your Highness's hospitality for fully three weeks—a very profitable three weeks in that they were devoted to the scientific study of the natural history of Your Highness's jungles, as to which, I think, we may justly claim to have gathered a mass of useful information. I shall never forget the delightful days we spent at Gwalior and at Your Highness's charming palace at Sipri.

But it is not only thanks that I as a friend naturally offer to Your Highness; the Government of India has on many occasions had good reason to be grateful to you for your loyal co-operation and hearty support. They recognise in you an able administrator and a gallant soldier. They know that by your vigorous and enlightened rule you have set an example of devotion to duty to your Ministers and to your people and that your State owes much to the wise application of its resources, generously assisted from your private income. They know, too, that you have never failed to respond to calls made upon you on behalf of public charities and schemes initiated by Government, as also that you have always been ready to give practical assistance to benevolent projects originated by private persons. As a soldier who ardently loves soldiering for its own sake, you have gained the well-earned reputation of a military organiser. You have added a magnificent force of Imperial Service Troops, cavalry, infantry and transport to the resources of the Indian Empire. Your transport proved its excellence in Chitral and in Tirah, you yourself served with distinction in the field during the last China war,—

*Opening of the Alexandra High School and Edward Museum, Bhopal.*

whilst your magnificent gift, the hospital ship *Gwalior*, rendered invaluable service in the same campaign. On the last occasion on which I was at Gwalior Your Highness was good enough to show me your troops in the field—I look forward to seeing them again on parade during my stay here. Your Highness has alluded to the reforms which are about to be launched. I hope they will confer a boon upon the people of India. In the early stages of their introduction we cannot expect their machinery to be perfect. We shall have much to learn by experience of its working, but I shall have no doubt of their ultimate success if the natural leaders of the people will study the spirited and enlightened example Your Highness and the ruling Chiefs of India have placed before them. I wish, Your Highness, that I had more time at my disposal to make myself acquainted with the many subjects of interest, both historical and administrative, in your State. I regret that my visit is unavoidably such a short one, but I can assure you that Lady Minto and I will always look back on our stay with you, short as it is, with warm recollections of your friendship, the magnificence of your hospitality, and the loyal welcome of your subjects.

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#### OPENING OF THE ALEXANDRA HIGH SCHOOL AND EDWARD MUSEUM, BHOPAL.

11th Nov. 1909. [During His Excellency the Viceroy's stay in Bhopal His Excellency opened the Alexandra High School and the Edward Museum. In doing so the Viceroy made the following remarks :—]

#### ALEXANDRA HIGH SCHOOL.

*Mr. Payne*,—I thank you for the address you have presented to me as Principal of the Alexandra High School, and I hope you will express to your staff and the students my sincere appreciation of the hearty welcome they have given to Lady Minto and myself. It is a great pleasure to both of us to be here and to take our share in

*Opening of the Alexandra High School and Edward Museum, Bhopal.*

inaugurating one of the many useful institutions Her Highness has bestowed upon Bhopal. Bhopal owes much to Her Highness's enlightened wisdom. Her Highness foresees the vast importance of awakening the upper classes of her State to a sense of the responsibilities which it is their duty to undertake, whilst at the same time providing for the general training of her subjects for the public services. She hopes in the future to look to her own subjects to assist her in her administration. She hopes to fill the chief positions in her State service from amongst them and not from the outside world. And with this view the Alexandra School aims, as you have told me, at being something more than an ordinary High School. It will indeed supply the teaching obtainable at other High Schools, but will in addition to that encourage amongst its pupils the many qualities which go to form that strength of character so invaluable in the battles of every-day life. It is the discipline of early life which goes so far to make the man. The famous Persian poet Sadi very truly said: "The severity of the tutor is more useful than the indulgence of the father." I do not doubt that as years go on the manly training of the Alexandra High School will prove the truth of the poet's words.

I hope that the pupils who leave these walls will grow up healthy, happy and God-fearing subjects, loyal and devoted to Her Highness—the distinguished administrator to whom they are so much indebted.

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen, I now declare the Alexandra High School to be open.

**EDWARD MUSEUM.**

*Mr. Nasiruddin*,—I am very glad that Her Highness has done me the honour of asking me to open this Museum, and may I say too that I am well aware of the labour you have devoted to its inauguration and the energy with which Nawab Nasrulla Khan has furthered the object Her



*State Banquet at Bhopal.*

Highness has in view. The importance of Museums is becoming more and more realised. They are not only places for sightseers, but should play a prominent part in placing within reach of the people object lessons which should do much to encourage and interest them in that scientific and technical training which is one of the great needs of the present time. It is every day becoming more evident to the leading minds of India that the benefits of mere literary teaching are limited, and that more practical methods of instruction are necessary to meet the demands for employment upon the supply of which the general contentment of the people must so largely depend. I feel sure that this Museum under the watchful care of Her Highness will be administered on well-thought-out lines and that it will afford many facilities for study in the improvement of agriculture, forestry, mineralogy and art. I hope that the boys of the Alexandra High School which I have just opened will often frequent it. I trust that it will prove an institution worthy of the great King-Emperor whose name it bears, and that it will fulfil all the hopes and intentions for which Her Highness has so generously founded it.

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## STATE BANQUET AT BHOPAL.

11th Nov. 1909. [During His Excellency's visit to Bhopal, where Their Excellencies were received with marked loyalty, Her Highness the Begum, entertained the Viceregal party and a large number of guests to a banquet at the Rahat Munjil on the night of the 11th November. The route was brilliantly illuminated, and the blaze of lights in the streets on the waters of the lakes, and in the Palace, was fairy-like. After the banquet, which was one of Mr. Peliti's masterpieces, Her Highness the Begum was conducted into the Hall, and delivered an eloquent speech, welcoming Their Excellencies, and noting the fact that Lord Minto was the direct descendant of the Governor-General who had laid the foundations of the cordial relations which had ever since subsisted between the British Government and the rulers of Bhopal. Her Highness recalled the fact that the Lady Rulers of her State

*State Banquet at Bhopal.*

had ever been foremost in their loyalty to the British dominion. The devotion of His Majesty's Mahomedan subjects was apparent, and all classes acknowledged the benefits of British rule. The resources of the Bhopal State, and in particular of the Victoria Lancers, were always at the disposal of the British Government. Her Highness was frequently and loudly applauded in the course of her speech which she delivered in Urdu, with marked accentuation.

In replying, and proposing the Begum's health, the Viceroy said :—]

Your Highness has told me that this is the first occasion on which a Viceroy has visited your State during your rule. I can only assure Your Highness that it is all the greater pleasure to me to feel that I am the first representative of the King-Emperor to receive your splendid hospitality. To me the occasion is very full of meaning, for, as Your Highness has reminded me in such eloquent words, it has fallen to my lot as the great-grandson of a former Lord Minto to revive the recollections of the friendly *kharita* which 100 years ago laid the foundations of that friendship which has existed through many trials and storms between Bhopal and the British Government down to the present day. During all that time the Rulers of Bhopal have given many proofs of loyalty to the British Raj. Your Highness's grandmother, Your Highness's mother and yourself have splendidly upheld the illustrious records of your history,—and have given proof of devoted loyalty not only in words but in deeds. The troops of your ancestors and ancestresses have covered themselves with glory on many a hard-fought field. And in later days, when the Imperial Service Troops movement was initiated by Lord Dufferin 20 years ago, Your Highness's mother was one of the first amongst the great Indian Rulers to offer her support. The name Victoria Lancers linked them to the throne—the offering of the lady Ruler of an Indian State to the great Queen-Empress. And Your Highness, may I venture to say that the military spirit of your proud and

*State Banquet at Bhopal.*

martial house has descended in full measure upon yourself. You may well be proud of the efficiency to which your Imperial Service Troops have now obtained, which the energy of their Commandant—Your Highness's son—Colonel Obeidullah Khan—has done so much to perfect. I am proud to know that he is my Aide-de-Camp. And, Your Highness, I really cannot let this opportunity pass of congratulating you on being the only lady Ruler of these modern peaceful days who has seen active service on the field. For a rumour has reached me that Your Highness, during your pilgrimage to Mecca, escorted by your own body-guard, had the good fortune to repel with some loss to the enemy an attack of Arab tribesmen who fell suddenly upon you—possibly the attack was not entirely unwelcome to the warlike spirit of Your Highness's escort.

But it is not only to military organisation that you have devoted your attention. You have justly earned the reputation of a great administrator, and in the affairs of State the noble inspirations you have instilled into your son have been rewarded by the able assistance of Nawab Nasrulla Khan. Your interest in the advance of education, especially in the higher education of Indian Chiefs, your recognition of the importance of religious instruction, your gifts to the Aligarh College and other institutions, your deep sympathy with the education of your own sex, your princely generosity towards the poor and destitute of your own faith, and your ideal that the landed aristocracy by taking a leading part in the active life of the community should contribute to the stability of a Native State—have combined to set an invaluable example of the duties of a great Chief, by the observance of which the stability of British rule in India will, I hope, forever be justified and confirmed.

Your Highness, Lady Minto and I will always look back on our visit to you not only with many recollections of your hospitality, but with a sincere admiration for your

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*Address from the Bombay Moslem League.*

devoted labours for the progress of your State and the welfare of your people.

I thank you for the very kind words with which you have proposed the toast of our healths, and Ladies and Gentlemen, I will ask you to join with me in drinking to the happiness and prosperity of our distinguished hostess, Her Highness the Begum.

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LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE  
MINTO HALL AT BHOPAL.

[In laying the stone His Excellency the Viceroy replied as follows 12th Nov. 1909. to an address from Her Highness the Begum :—]

*Your Highness*,—I am very glad that my great-grandfather's name and my own will be permanently associated with Bhopal by means of this Hall, which is only another signal instance of Your Highness's kind thoughtfulness, which has become proverbial throughout India. I hope that the Hall will not only fulfil the public objects for which it is so much needed, but that it will continue for all time to further Your Highness's generous hospitality and the friendly relations of your British, and Indian guests.

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ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY MOSLEM LEAGUE.

[During His Excellency's visit to Ahmedabad, the representatives 13th Nov. 1909. of the League presented the Viceroy with the following address :—]

*May it please Your Excellency*,—We, the representatives of the Bombay Presidency Moslem League, in the name of our co-religionists, beg to welcome Your Lordship to this Presidency, and to express our gratitude for the sympathetic interest which Your Lordship has ever taken in us. The Bombay Presidency Moslem League is more concerned with the India of the present and the future than with the India of the past, but we feel that Your Lordship has made a felicitous choice in receiving our respectful greeting at this

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*Address from the Bombay Moslem League.*

place. Not only may Ahmedabad be considered as the northern gateway of the Bombay Presidency, but it is also a city whose name has been made famous by the Mussalman kings of Gujrat, and a city of which the walls were traced by Moslems so famous as Ahmed Shah and Mahmud Shah. Begada is a fitting place wherein to offer a Mahomedan welcome to the representative of His Most Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor. But it is not only the past glories of Islam that Your Excellency will see at Ahmedabad, and farther south at Bijapur. Here and in the capital of the Presidency Your Excellency will not fail to observe that, influenced by the spirit of modern civilization, and happy in the peace and security of British rule, Mahomedans are actively engaged in industrial enterprise, and it is our boast that on the roll of the Indian captains of industry some of the distinguished members of this League occupy no mean position. Your Lordship has given many signs that the loyalty of the Mahomedans of India to the British Raj is duly appreciated, and we in Bombay rejoice at this, for though less numerous in proportion than our fellow Moslems in Northern India we yield to none in our loyalty to our Emperor and his Government. One of the main objects of this Society is to promote feelings of loyalty towards British rule, and to make that rule strong in its hold upon the mind, the affections and the imaginations of the people of India. This object, as was pointed out to us by our distinguished Governor last year, involves a necessary corollary, *viz.*, endeavour to counteract all attempts to excite unreasoning animosity against the English Raj, and it is the constant desire of this League faithfully to discharge this part of its obligation. The wise statesmanship which Your Lordship has displayed in times of peculiar difficulty and stress has become proverbial, and it would not be seemly for us to mention it once again, except that we are compelled to congratulate Your Lordship on bringing the ship of State safely through many storms. Now as we fast approach a new era, we tender our heartfelt thanks to the pilot who has granted us those rights, which three years ago were promised to our national deputation, which had its origin in this Presidency. This sympathy for Islam we expected indeed from a Viceroy whose distinguished family has ever been kindly disposed to men of our faith, and from one whose sword was ready a generation or more ago to be drawn in defence of a Mahomedan nation. Both inclination and traditions have made Your Lordship our friend, and it is our hope that the feelings we entertain towards Your Lordship may be appreciated as a possession of some value. In particular are we mindful of the fact that by the abolition

*Address from the Bombay Moslem League.*

of quarantine upon pilgrims in Bombay, Your Lordship has done much to lightening the task of those who go as the guests of God on the sacred pilgrimage to the Hedjaz, and for thus assisting Mahomedans in the discharge of their religious duties the name and memory of Your Lordship will for ever be preserved by all true Mahomedans. We beg also, my Lord, that we may offer to the Countess of Minto a most sincere welcome. Her interest in the women of India shows that she is worthy of their greatest honour and respect, and the esteem with which her Ladyship is regarded in the zenana, where her good name is honoured, is equalled only by the respect with which we venture to greet her on this happy occasion in the life of the Bombay Presidency Moslem League.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I am very glad to have this opportunity of receiving the representatives of the Bombay Presidency Moslem League, and I thank you for the sincerity of your welcome to myself and for your expressions of devoted loyalty to the King-Emperor.

You tell me that your League is more concerned with the India of the present day and its future than with the traditions of the past, and I am well aware that you have recognised the changing spirit of the times and the competition that every community must nowadays be prepared to face in the protection of its own interests.

It was my good fortune 3 years ago to hear the views of your recognised leaders as to the lines upon which they considered they should share in the political history of India, and whilst very readily accepting the principle of those views, as I told you at the time, I have hoped that they would not debar you from that open rivalry in everyday public life, upon success in which the general influence of your representatives must in the future largely depend.

I am glad, too, if during my period of office in India I have been able to do something to lessen the hardships of your co-religionists on their sacred pilgrimage to the Hedjaz by the abolition of quarantine at Bombay. The recollection of my service long ago with Mahomedan troops

*State Banquet at Baroda.*

makes it all the pleasanter to feel that I may have been able to do something in the interests of old friends.

You have met me to-day, as you have told me, Gentlemen, at the northern gateway of the Bombay Presidency, and absorbed as we all must be with the practical problems of the present and future, it is impossible to forget the romance of old days. I am glad that your welcome has been extended to me in this ancient city—the greatest city in Western India long before Bombay had risen to fame—a city founded by a Mahomedan King 500 years ago and still full of the architectural remains of the old glories of the Moslem Empire. My visit to Ahmedabad is, as you know, necessarily a hurried one—nevertheless I look forward not only to seeing its historical relics, but the results of the energy of its modern population and the evidence of its ever-increasing prosperity.

I thank you on behalf of Lady Minto for the kind words you have addressed to her, and for the warmth of your reception to us on the threshold of your Presidency.

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**STATE BANQUET AT BARODA.**

15th Nov. 1909. [His Excellency the Viceroy's arrival at Baroda was marked by great cordiality and an outburst of loyalty—especially noticeable as His Excellency arrived at Baroda the day after the attempt made on the Viceroy's life at Ahmedabad.]

On the night of the 15th November His Highness the Gaekwar entertained Their Excellencies at a State Banquet.

The Viceroy and Lady Minto drove through the city, which had been gaily decorated and illuminated for the occasion. Over a hundred guests were assembled to enjoy His Highness's hospitality. The Darbar hall was transformed, and in the centre were fountains and blocks of ice, lit up with changing lights.

After the banquet, during which the Band and Indian music played alternately, the Gaekwar proposed His Majesty's health in a

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speech of fervent loyalty to the Throne :—

*"Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I have great pleasure in proposing the health of His Majesty the King-Emperor. Nearly nine years ago His Majesty ascended the Throne of the greatest Empire the world has known, and his unceasing and beneficent labours during this period in the interests of the peace and friendliness among nations have borne ripe fruits, which are appreciated and felt all over the civilised world. The people of India gave him a loyal and cordial reception when, as Prince of Wales, he visited these shores, over thirty years ago, and it was my proud privilege to welcome him in this State and in this city on that auspicious occasion. His Majesty's Indian subjects rejoice to know that they have always a place in His Majesty's thoughts. May he live long, and may his reign be as glorious as that of his august mother. I ask you now to drink to the health of His Majesty King Edward VII, Emperor of India."

His Highness then proposed the health of Lord and Lady Minto in the following words :—

*"Ladies and Gentlemen,*—I rise now to propose the health of my illustrious guest, His Excellency the Viceroy. Two of His Excellency's predecessors, Lord Dufferin and Lord Elgin, favoured us with their visits within my time, and as on those occasions I rejoice once more in according a cordial welcome to the august representative of the King-Emperor. Years have lapsed since the visits of the preceding Viceroys, many changes have taken place with the years, but the friendly relations of my State with the British Government remain unchanged, and the firm and unalterable loyalty of my house to the British Throne remains unshaken. Indeed the lapse of years has drawn our mutual relations yet closer. We form portions of the same great Empire. We are inspired by the same object, which is the preservation of peace, and public tranquillity, and we are animated by the same wish, which is the promotion of the progress, the prosperity and the happiness of the people.

"My Lord, it has always appeared to me that any true progress among the people must embrace their social and moral advancement, as well as their material well-being. I think the true function of Government is not to stand entirely aloof in these matters, but to keep pace with modern times and modern ideas. After all the masses are yet sunk in appalling ignorance, and they need our support, encouragement and help in effecting reforms. To minister to social and moral advancement has always been the consideration and one of the duties of the sovereign in the East. I have myself sometimes been criticised for taking administrative action to correct



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social evils, and religious abuses. So far, however, as one can judge from the results, my policy has met with some measure of success. In these and in all other matters of internal administration every Native State, in proportion as it enjoys liberty of action, grows in efficiency in securing the welfare of its subjects, and, therefore, in promoting general progress any curtailment of freedom in internal affairs lessens our sense of responsibility, and weakens our power for effecting improvement. Loyalty has always been considered in the East as one of the first virtues in a people. But loyalty, when merely sentimental, is of small value. It should be real, genuine, and active. To secure such loyalty there should be a community of interest between the subjects and the ruling power. The former should have a proper share in the administration of the country, and should feel that the Government is their own. It is for this reason that I hail with pleasure those great measures of reform which Your Excellency initiated, and which His Majesty's Government have accepted. These reforms will open out to the people of India a larger field of activity, and inspire them with a greater sense of responsibility in the performance of their civic duties, and future generations will recognise in these statesman-like measures a forward step in the progress and advancement of the community under the rule of England.

"Within my limited scope I have attempted to follow the same liberal policy of inviting the co-operation of my subjects in the work of administration, and spreading education amongst them. We have passed through some sad and anxious years of drought and famine, but the present year's monsoon has been favourable, and I hope it marks the beginning of a cycle of prosperity. Measures have been adopted to encourage industries, to withdraw restrictions on trade, to help the agricultural population, and to introduce some form of self-government in villages and towns. I am glad to think that my State enjoys profound peace and that my subjects are quiet and contented and engaged in the peaceful avocation of their daily life. That they may steadily advance in prosperity, in education, and in self-help, are the foremost objects of my administration. Education, after all, is the most efficacious means of natural progress. As one who has for many years been in intimate touch with the people, I may venture to remark that the education imparted in this country is not exactly of the right kind. Its effect is superficial. It does not sufficiently penetrate into society. True education consists not merely in the acquisition of knowledge, but in the development of the reasoning powers, and in the formation of character. It should train up men to

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a full sense of the responsibility of their duties as men and as citizens. It should not be confined to one class, but should reach the masses. The attainment of these objects, in my opinion, can best be helped forward by the adoption of a sound system of primary and secondary education, for girls as well as boys, which will influence the people at the most impressionable period of their lives. It seems to me that a wider spread of education is all the more necessary now that it is proposed to enlist the co-operation of large classes in the management of their own affairs, and to widen the basis of representation.

"I know full well the difficulties with which education is beset, difficulties which many are liable to ignore in their haste to achieve in a day those results which are attainable only by the patient and selfless work of generations. I would have my people learn that progress, to be real, must have its roots in themselves, that they must look to the orderly conduct of their lives, that it is probity, fair-mindedness, public spirit and loyalty to the State which make good citizens and that he who can subordinate his private interests to the common weal, is he who is fitted for a voice in affairs of State. The truly educated will regard the personal liberty they enjoy as the most precious blessing of civilization, and their duties to the State as essential to their corporate existence.

"Those, on the other hand, who confound liberty with license, and seek to undermine authority, must be repressed with a firm hand, and not allowed to endanger the public tranquillity or general progress. These, my Lord, are my ideals of education and self-help. In all my endeavours to achieve progress, and to make my subjects worthy citizens, I know that I can rely on Your Excellency's support. I cordially acknowledge the ready assistance which my administration receives from Your Excellency's Government, and as cordially I assure Your Excellency of my readiness to respond, within my power, to any call for co-operation with the Government of India.

"I desire, in conclusion, to express on behalf of the Maharani and of myself the gratification that we feel at Lady Minto's visit to our capital, and I wish once more to offer to her Ladyship and to Your Excellency our heartiest welcome. Our welcome, my Lord, is fraught with the most heartfelt gratitude that Providence has saved Your Excellency from the dastardly attempt at outrage, of which the news has just reached us.

"I voice, my Lord, the feelings not only of myself and of my people but also of the whole of India, in expressing, so far as words can express, our profound horror that such a crime could ever be thought of much less attempted, against one who is not only the representative of

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His Majesty, but also the truest friend and benefactor of our country.

"I now ask you all to join in drinking the health of Their Excellencies, with feelings of high esteem for them, and of deep loyalty to the Throne."

His Excellency replied as follows:— ]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—Your Highness has reminded me that since the days of Lord Dufferin and Lord Elgin no Viceroy has visited Baroda as your guest, and I am glad that it has devolved upon me as the representative of the King-Emperor to renew the acceptance of your friendly hospitality. You have often kindly pressed it upon me, but public engagements have ruthlessly stood in the way, and I rejoice that the visit I have so often vainly looked forward to has at last become a reality.

I have listened with deep interest to the eloquent words in which you have assured me of the friendly relations of your State with the British Government and have asserted the unshaken loyalty of your house to the Throne. I know that Your Highness fully recognises the great extent to which the future peace and prosperity of the Indian Empire must depend upon a true appreciation of the unity of interest of its component parts and their mutual co-operation for the common good. I trust that future years will very fully justify the words of welcome with which Your Highness has greeted those measures of reform which have been announced to-day, and which have been so long under the consideration of the Government of India and His Majesty's Government, and I earnestly hope they may assist to further a closer understanding between the people of this country and its rulers. We have made a great step forward in our political machinery. We must not be too impatient for evidence of its results. It cannot at first be perfect. We shall have much to learn from experience of its working, — and not only that—we must remember that the political progress of India, I mean the progress that entitles a larger number of the population to take a share in the political

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life of the country, must be very slow. The success of that progress will depend upon the education we place at the disposal of the people, and I agree with what I believe to be Your Highness's view that the education hitherto imparted has neglected the moral and religious training which are the foundation of character. The want of that foundation has already been the cause of many evils, and is full of future danger against which we are bound to provide.

I am well aware of the labour Your Highness has devoted to the study of educational and social questions in your State. In other matters, too, you have done much for administrative efficiency. The creation of your Legislative Council and your bold attempt to separate the exercise of judicial and executive functions has, I can assure Your Highness, elicited the warm interest of the Government of India, and I must at the same time wish you every success in the results of the abolition by your Durbar of all internal customs duties.

Your Highness has alluded to the unfortunate occurrence at Ahmedabad on Saturday and has told me that the cordiality of our welcome has been accentuated by the general rejoicing that we had escaped safely from a grave danger. It is always pleasant to receive the sympathy of one's friends, and I cordially thank Your Highness for the kindness of your expressions towards Lady Minto and myself. I have so often expressed my opinion as to the nature of these dastardly outrages that I need scarcely repeat what I have said on many occasions. But I shall always refuse to admit that these anarchical crimes should be allowed to blacken the character of a whole people—they emanate from men with whom the great mass of the population have no sympathy—but at the same time their deeds are a slur upon the people of India, and I trust that they will assist the Government of India to eradicate from their midst the seeds of the poison that have been scattered amongst them.

*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

I can assure Your Highness it has been a great gratification to me to renew our acquaintance in the capital of this important principality, whose friendly relations with the British Government have existed for over a century, and to recognise on all sides the many evidences of your administrative energy and capacity. And, Your Highness, Lady Minto and I will carry away with us many recollections not only of the magnificence of your hospitality, but of the cordiality of the welcome extended to us by Your Highness and the Maharani.

[In reply the Gaekwar made an impromptu speech, paying a personal tribute to Lord Minto, and thanking him for the kindness which His Excellency had extended towards him, and recalling the fact that the late Lord Minto had been the first nobleman in England to offer him hospitality.]

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ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE.

18th Nov. 1909. [At 11 A.M. on the 18th November the Viceroy received a deputation by the Chamber, who were represented by The Hon'ble Mr. C. H. Armstrong, Chairman, Mr. Milne, Deputy Chairman, and Messrs. Metaxa, Monteith, Wilson, Black, Uehlinger and Rickards.

Mr. Armstrong presented the following address :—

*May it please Your Excellency,*—We, the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, desire again to offer to Your Excellency a most cordial welcome to Bombay. It is exactly four years to-day since this Chamber had the honour and the pleasure of welcoming Your Excellency on your arrival in this country as Viceroy of India.

Much has happened in the interval. A wave of unrest has swept across the country bringing with it many questions of grave complexity with which Your Excellency's Government have had to deal. This Chamber has watched the progress of events with interest and some anxiety and are glad to note from recent utterances by Your Excellency and others in high authority, that order is to be maintained, and that those who, on the platform or through the press, endeavour to stir up evil passions and thereby make the work of Government more difficult, will be promptly and severely dealt with.

*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

This policy, as beneficial to all law-abiding citizens, must commend itself to the commercial community generally, irrespective of nationality, for the interchange of commodities and the delicate financial operations necessitated thereby can only be conducted satisfactorily under settled conditions and a feeling of confidence in the future.

Successful trade is a condition essential to India's welfare, and discontent, which is so easily fostered, depreciates values, destroys confidence, drives away capital and greatly hampers credit, without which business cannot be carried on successfully.

The steps now being taken by Your Excellency to encourage the legitimate aspirations of the people by enlarged Councils and more direct control in the administration of the country's affairs are hopefully regarded by this Chamber, which trusts that the powers about to be conferred will materially help and not hinder the Executive Officers of Government. If this should be so, the new scheme will fully justify the care and attention which Your Excellency has bestowed upon it.

The dissemination, however, on an extensive scale, of injurious literature, is a feature of the present time which seems to this Chamber to call for some action on the part of Government. The step recently taken by certain well-known Indian Princes, to prevent in their territories the circulation of newspapers of an injurious character is one which must be approved by all law-abiding citizens, and whether a press license system, or some other similar control, has not now become necessary, is a question which this Chamber would be glad to see taken into consideration by the Government of India.

The spirit of progress, which is now passing over the country, is welcomed by the commercial community of this city, for as India grows in wealth by increased production, her Inland and Foreign trade will naturally increase and the community generally will reap the benefit. It is the earnest hope of this Chamber that this true swadeshi enterprise will be directed in sound lines of development in Railways and Industrial works which will give employment to the people, and so add to the wealth and consumptive power of the community.

This progressive spirit in Bombay has largely manifested itself of late in the establishment of new banks, which it is hoped will not lead, eventually, to trouble by undue inflation of credit. If the money which accumulates in the hands of the community could be directed into real works of utility, on a sound and lasting basis—and Railway extension offers a large field for such investment—the public generally would have a greater interest in the welfare of the country, and this at the present time, is what is greatly needed.

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*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

The good harvest now being reaped will add, it is hoped, to the contentment of the people, and bring about also that improvement in trade which is so greatly needed. Since the closing months of 1907 business in Bombay has been generally unsatisfactory, and the difficulties of the past two years have been aggravated by a greatly increased cost of living, which to many has been a severe burden. This Chamber is, therefore, glad to note that Government are now instituting an enquiry into the question of the greatly increased cost of the food of the people. Many theories have been put forward to account for the recent great advance, and it will be interesting if the investigation now to be undertaken is able to throw some light on this intricate and important problem.

The improvement in trade which may be expected to follow a good monsoon will naturally help to adjust the Currency problem, and eventually enable fresh additions to be made to the Gold Standard Reserve Fund. It is the earnest hope of this Chamber that before Rupee coinage is resumed, the order under which half profits on coinage are diverted to Railway purposes, will be rescinded. From the first this Chamber strongly objected to any such diversion while the Reserve is still in process of formation, and recent events have amply demonstrated the soundness of this view, as well as the necessity for a much larger Reserve than was apparently considered sufficient at the time the diversion was decided upon.

Further, this Chamber is, and always has been, of opinion that the bulk of the Reserve should be actually held in gold, the advisability of which has been forcibly illustrated by events which will still be fresh in Your Excellency's memory. A definite pronouncement indicating that Government intend to pursue in future the policy advocated by this Chamber, would be welcomed by the Commercial and Banking communities as affording the surest safeguard against a recurrence of that feeling of financial apprehension and consequent dislocation of trade which formed such a marked feature of the autumn of 1907.

The completion of the Nagda-Muttra Railway is a matter of very great satisfaction to this Chamber. It is many years since the line was first mooted, and at one time the Chamber almost despaired of the work being taken in hand. From the year 1896 the Chamber's records show constant pressure by the Bombay Commercial community, for the construction of this important through line, but it was not until the end of 1904 that the Secretary of State sanctioned the construction from Nagda to the crossing of the Chumbal Valley, a distance of 141½ miles. Since then the work has been pushed on to completion, and the traffic which this new line ought to bring will be very helpful to Bombay trade.

*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

An extension from Muttra to Aligarh must surely be the next step in the programme. A glance at the map will show that Aligarh is the natural termination of the line and the connection a necessary one to put Bombay in communication, on its own metals, with the Oudh and Rohilkand Railway. We venture to commend this extension to Your Excellency's good care.

Nearer home we desire the extension of feeder lines in several important districts, for now that we are building a large new dock we require a great increase of trade to enable us to meet the heavy additional charges which we are undertaking.

The improvement in the telegraphic service is also a matter of great satisfaction to this Chamber, and the lower cost of Inland messages is a boon to all classes of the commercial community. The cost of commercial messages to Europe is still, however, too high, and a further reduction, which we hope the Government of India will constantly urge, would be of much benefit to trade.

The improvement of the city of Bombay is also a subject in which this Chamber is much interested. When His Excellency Sir George Clarke arrived in India, the Chamber pressed this matter upon him as one needing urgent attention. The Chamber felt, at that time, that a new and independent view was necessary and were willing to leave the matter, with perfect confidence, in the hands of their new Governor. The Chamber's confidence in Sir George Clarke's ability to deal with the question satisfactorily has not been misplaced, and the scheme lately put forward by the Bombay Government is one which deserves the most careful consideration. Much has been done by the City Improvement Trust in recent years, to open up congested areas, and much still remains to be done, but whilst fully recognising the great importance of the improvement of insanitary districts, the Chamber will continue to give its strongest support to schemes boldly planned for the improvement of road connections, and especially the one north and south through the Native Town. The widening of Abdul Rehman Street, or a direct thoroughfare in that neighbourhood, would be an immense improvement to the city in every way, and by enabling those who now live in and near congested areas, to get with ease to districts further north, would generally improve sanitary conditions, and bring about a more healthy state of living. Great schemes of this kind cannot, however, be carried through without funds, and generous assistance is needed if Bombay is to obtain that improvement in its conditions which is so very necessary for its future welfare.

By schemes of a far-reaching character, the Port Trust, at the present time, is carrying out great works of extension and improve-



*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

ment on the eastern side of the Island. Heavy liabilities are being incurred on these works, which the commercial community desire should be vigorously pushed forward, and it is hoped at the same time that the city will not hesitate to undertake those works of utility which for years past have seemed so very necessary, and which, as time has been allowed to slip past, have become more and more urgent.

These, my Lord, are the more important matters we desire to submit for Your Excellency's consideration. Other matters affecting our trade—commercially and financially—we are glad at times to have the opportunity of discussing with members of Your Excellency's Government when they visit Bombay. These visits we consider most useful and of very great value, and we can assure Your Excellency that the Bombay Chamber of Commerce is always most anxious to advise and assist in any matters that may be submitted to it by Government. The increasing interest of the Government of India in Commerce, Industry and Agriculture is most welcome to the commercial community generally, and we feel sure that Your Excellency's visit to Bombay, and your kindness in now receiving us, will further strengthen the bonds which connect Commerce and Industry so closely with the good government of the country.

To which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—You have reminded me in very graceful terms that it is exactly four years to-day since you first welcomed me to Bombay—to-day is also the fourth anniversary of my assumption of the viceroyalty—and I deeply appreciate the cordiality of the greeting your Chamber has now for the second time extended to me.

You have very truly said that much has happened since last we met. The four years that have rolled by have been momentous ones in the history of India, with more than a normal share of anxieties, and the appreciative words you have addressed to me are all the more encouraging in that they emanate not only from the representatives of the great commercial interests of this country but from a Chamber which has so often given proof of its courage and soundness of judgment in times of difficulty.

I have listened with pleasure to your reference to the measures of reform which have just been announced, and I trust that the enlarged Councils and the greater share

*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

they will offer to the people of India in the administration of their country will go far to satisfy the aspirations which the advance of education together with the growing development of political ideas throughout the Eastern world has naturally encouraged. I hope and believe that they will clear the political atmosphere and that the sun has already burst through the clouds—but we have all heard the mutterings of a threatening storm, and it has been my earnest endeavour, whilst freely admitting the justice of demands for political change, to maintain with no uncertain voice the principles enunciated in your address that the first duty of any administration is to provide for the peace and safety of the populations committed to its charge, and for the security of the interests of their various communities. By what means that security can be best guaranteed under existing conditions is a problem which you may rest assured is constantly before the Government of India.

But putting aside the difficulties that we must face in the future, may I be allowed to join with the commercial community of Bombay in welcoming the spirit of progress which you tell me is now passing over the country and which I hope will be sagaciously guided and controlled. A good monsoon has been followed by a bountiful harvest,—I hear on all sides of bumper crops,—and there is the probability of an accumulation of profits, which I understand you to suggest, and I entirely agree with you, might wisely be directed to the development of works of utility,—especially to railway extension which offers a large field for investment—the possibilities of which I hope the Indian community will not fail to realize. Such possibilities have already been anticipated to some extent by the Government of India. The energetic Bombay firm of Messrs Killick, Nixon & Co., have, I hope, had every assistance in the many railway projects they have put before Government—several of which have been successfully

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*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

carried out. The Tapti Valley Railway, the Ahmedabad-Prantij Line, the Amritsar-Patti Railway, are all instances of the investment of local capital in railway extension, and other schemes have been put forward by the same firm which have secured the full support of the Government of Bombay and sympathetic treatment at the hands of the Government of India.

In regard to the line from Muttra to Aligarh I am afraid I can give you little consolation. You have, I believe, been in correspondence with the Railway Board regarding this extension, and I understand you admit that even without this connection Bombay already draws a large amount of traffic from the area the proposed line would serve. The shortening of the present distance between Aligarh and Bombay would only be 12 miles, and if the line was constructed, you may be quite certain Calcutta would demand a *quid pro quo* for the further diversion of trade from herself to Bombay which might ensue.

I am very glad to hear from you of the approval with which the Chamber has received recent alterations in the telegraphic service, especially in respect to reduction of the cost of inland messages. As to the reduction of the charge for commercial messages between Europe and India I need not say that I am in entire sympathy with your wish. But we must remember that the rate per word was largely reduced in 1902, since which there has been a still further reduction, and the rate is, I believe, now half of what it was in the beginning of that year. Also press telegrams have come down from 1s. 4d. to 9d. in the same period, the last reduction being only some few months ago. Much as I should wish to see the rates still further reduced I am afraid we must be prepared to go slowly.

As to the complicated financial and currency questions to which you have referred, I can only say that the Government of India is in general accord with your Chamber. But whilst rejoicing with you at the many signs of progress

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*Address from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

of which there are evidences on all sides, I regret to hear of the unsatisfactory state of trade in Bombay. I am told that the cotton mill industry has been in a bad way and that large stocks have accumulated. On the other hand, there are slight indications—though not as marked as elsewhere in India—of a movement in imported piece goods. The export trade of Bombay is not, however, showing the same signs of improvement as are to be observed in Karachi and Calcutta.

I earnestly hope the state of trade will ere long commence to improve. All the more so because the city has in hand many schemes of a far-reaching character. The improvement of Bombay itself, the opening up of congested areas for which the City Improvement Trust has already done so much, the improvement of sanitation, the reclamation works undertaken by the Port Trust, the new Docks and the improvement of road connections—are all matters of primary importance to the city, which putting aside financial considerations, could at any rate be far more cheerfully brought to completion in times of commercial prosperity than under the influences of commercial depression.

You are fortunate in possessing in His Excellency Sir George Clarke a Governor whose expert advice in such great undertakings must be invaluable.

It has been a great pleasure to me, Gentlemen, to listen to your views on the important matters you have dealt with in your address, and I am grateful for your assurance that my visit to Bombay will assist still further to unite the commercial and industrial interests of your great city with the general development of the resources of India as a whole. I am a great believer in face to face discussion, and I trust that an interchange of ideas between the members of my Government and your members may tend not only to elucidate the interests of Bombay but to assist the commercial and financial policy of the Government of India.

*Address from the Bombay Municipal Corporation.*

I must heartily thank you, Gentlemen, for the cordiality of your welcome to me.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

20th Nov. 1909. [During his visit to Bombay, His Excellency the Viceroy was presented with an address from the Municipal Corporation, to which His Excellency made the following reply :—]

*Mr. President and Gentlemen*,—I well remember the day four years ago when on behalf of the City of Bombay you first welcomed me to India, at a time when the future was full of many anxieties, and a thick mist shrouded the political outlook, and it is all the pleasanter—all the more encouraging—to meet you here again, to receive a second welcome from you and to realize that throughout the four years we have left behind us you have sympathised with me in my apprehensions of the alarms and warnings which have surrounded us, and that you have approved the endeavours I have made to meet them. The words of appreciation you have addressed to Lady Minto and myself on behalf of this great city are very valuable to us, and I heartily thank you for them.

I trust that the measures of reform which have just been announced will usher in a new era of peaceful progress. Their initial success must largely depend on the good sense with which they are received—on the admission by the Indian public that, though they may not be perfect, they aim at the fulfilment of past promises and the recognition of great principles. The field of administrative machinery will be broadened, daylight will be let in where it has been much wanted, and the seeds of that spirit of mutual co-operation in the government of this country, to which you have alluded and upon which so much depends, will, I hope, be sown at last.

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*Address from the Bombay Municipal Corporation.*

You have referred, Gentlemen, to the great undertakings which are proceeding for the improvement of your city. I have seen evidences of activity on all sides, and I hope I may say too of commercial progress and a brilliant commercial future, whilst I recognise with admiration the conceptions of the City Improvement Trust—in response to the growing trade and the vast Imperial interests of Bombay. I have done my best to ascertain the financial position of the Trust in respect to the Government of India. It is somewhat involved, and in replying to your address I hardly think I should be justified in referring at any length to the settlement embodied in the City of Bombay Improvement Act of 1898. But I am bound to say that the impression left on my mind, after studying the papers at my disposal, is that the assistance given so far by the Government to the Trust, if it is examined, will be found to be substantial. As regards the possibility of assistance to be given by the Government of India to the Government of Bombay, the general principle accepted by the Government of India has been that such large Corporations as those of the Presidency Towns which possess public credit of their own will naturally use that credit in the first instance. At the same time I can assure the Corporation that the Government of India will be prepared to fulfil any promise of support it may have made to the Improvement Trust when the necessity arises. At present I am glad to think that the Corporation is benefiting materially by a steady increase in Municipal assessments, and I have no doubt they will be prepared to bear a share of the burden.

As to the question of the duration of Municipal Loans. The actual convenience to a Municipality of an extension of the duration of loans is evident. But there are, I think, objections equally evident against it—the Decentralization Commission argued forcibly that the tendency of public Corporations in India, as elsewhere, is to endeavour to diminish present burdens, and add to present resources.

*Address from the Bombay Municipal Corporation.*

by long term loans, which will re-act on the credit and resources of the next generation, and that there is no matter in which more careful outside check is required than in the case of local indebtedness. In the meantime the Government of India have referred the remarks of the Decentralization Commission to Local Governments. I admit there is a good deal to be said on both sides. The principles against the extensions of loans ought not, in my opinion, to be rigidly binding, and should be capable of relaxation when sufficient grounds for it are shown.

In respect to other local matters I rejoice to hear your approval of the results of the co-operation of the Government of India with the Local Government, and I hope that the readjustments arrived at will facilitate the labours of the Municipality and contribute to the general well-being of the people.

I can assure you, Gentlemen, Lady Minto and I will carry away the warmest recollection of our visits to your beautiful city, of the cordiality of the welcome of its citizens and of the very kind words of your address.

Our only regret is that we have not more time at our disposal to cement still further the friendships we hope we have made amongst you.

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**ADDRESS FROM MYSORE MUNICIPALITY.**

25th Nov. 1909. [Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto and Staff arrived at Mysore on the morning of the 25th November and received a warm welcome. The Mysore Municipality presented an address to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Mr. President and Gentlemen,*—On behalf of Lady Minto and myself I thank you for the welcome you have so cordially extended to us on our arrival at the capital of the State of Mysore. As the representative of the King-Emperor I rejoice in the opportunities my tour affords me of making

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*State Banquet at Mysore.*

acquaintance with the people of India and of seeing on all sides the many evidences of their loyalty and attachment to the Throne.

I am glad to hear from you of your appreciation of the benefits of British administration, and I fully recognise that under the enlightened rule of His Highness the Maharaja the prosperity of his people will be well cared for and the resources of his State ably developed. At the present moment I am glad to hear that the future is bright with the prospects of an abundant harvest.

Lady Minto and I are glad to have seen something already of the beauties of Mysore, for we have passed with delight through scenery rich in woodland beauty, have received greetings from the happy populations of many villages and have been lost in admiration of the magnificence of the Gaersoppa Falls,—and though our stay amongst you is necessarily a short one, we look forward to making ourselves acquainted with the many points of interest in your city and with the various improvements on behalf of its citizens which I understand your Council has inaugurated with so much success.

I assure you, Gentlemen, Lady Minto and I will always look back with sincere pleasure to the days we have spent in Mysore and to the hearty welcome you have given us.

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STATE BANQUET AT MYSORE.

[In the evening of the 25th November His Highness the Maharaja 25th Nov. 1909. entertained Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto and a number of guests to a Banquet at Government House.

After welcoming Their Excellencies His Highness said :—

“Your Excellency needs no assurance of my own loyalty to our beloved King-Emperor, and as regards my people I take this opportunity of publicly expressing my conviction that they do not forget the intimate associations of the past and are actuated by nothing



*State Banquet at Mysore.*

but friendly feelings for the British race and by loyalty and gratitude to the paramount Power. Happily, therefore, it has not been necessary for my Government to adopt any repressive measure except to arm ourselves as a matter of precaution with powers against seditious writings in the public press. The powers are, I firmly believe necessary. Their existence is in itself sufficient to keep in check the evil against which they are aimed, and I trust it may never be necessary to enforce them rigorously. It is not only as a strong and sympathetic ruler that Your Excellency's name will live in Indian History. I feel that I may speak in the name of my brother Chiefs in all India when I say that Your Excellency has established a peculiar and special claim to our gratitude and affection by the sympathy and consideration which you have shewn both in words and in deeds in your policy towards the Native States. I can say from my heart that we Chiefs respond most warmly to the generous and kindly sentiments which Your Excellency has so frequently and eloquently expressed towards us, and that we shall ever cherish your memory as one of our truest friends and sympathisers. I would also like to express on this occasion the deep horror and indignation which has been aroused all over India, which is nowhere stronger than in Mysore, at the dastardly outrage recently attempted at Ahmedabad. We all share the universal feeling of thankfulness that your lives and persons were so mercifully protected."

The Viceroy replied as follows :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—Your Highness has reminded me that when my visit to your State was first under consideration there were threatenings of serious famine. In the early spring of this year there were indeed good reasons to apprehend distress, and I feared lest my visit might put a heavy strain upon Your Highness's revenue and add still further to your anxieties at a time of severe agricultural depression—but now that a good monsoon has dispelled our gloomy apprehensions, it is all the greater pleasure to me to accept your courtly hospitality, to listen to your words of welcome, and to hear from you that the seasons promise well for the happiness of your people.

Your Highness has alluded to the anxious years through which India has lately passed—to the seditious movement with which the Government of India has had sternly to

*State Banquet at Mysore.*

deal, and to the reforms which we believe will tend to foster the contentment of the people, and I share in your hope that the tide has turned at last. The Government of India owes much to Your Highness for the support you have personally afforded to them at a time of great difficulty by the straightforward and manly attitude you as a distinguished Ruler have consistently assumed and by the precautionary legislation you have introduced into your State,—regardless of angry criticism,—with the determination to prohibit the dissemination amongst your people of doctrines aiming at political misguidance, the acceptance of which, if unchecked, can but result in the ruin of social welfare and the disappearance of public safety.

Your Highness has gracefully referred to those “happy associations of the past” which for so long existed between Mysore and the Government of India, associations which I cannot but think are shedding their influence on the history of to-day. For I feel that I am enjoying the hospitality of a Chief and his subjects, between whom and the British Raj the experience of past years has guaranteed the mutual respect and regard of a lasting friendship, and I watch with all the greater pleasure the wise and prudent administration of the present representative of the ancient Mysore dynasty. And, Maharaja, I very deeply appreciate the words you have addressed to me on behalf of your brother Chiefs as well as of yourself. As I have said elsewhere, I am glad to reckon many of these Chiefs amongst my personal friends, and their recognition of my wish to safeguard their interests and to further their co-operation in the maintenance of our great Empire is very welcome to me, whilst their congratulations and those of their people so warmly expressed to Lady Minto and myself on our recent escape have deeply touched us both.

I hope that during my short visit to Your Highness I may be able to obtain some insight into the public affairs which you so ably supervise—and I am much looking

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*Addresses from Mysore Planters and Coorg Deputation.*

forward to seeing your Imperial Service Troops of whom I have heard so much.

In the midst of so many evidences of prosperity, I deeply regret that there are symptoms of a recrudescence of plague in the city of Mysore—which are all the more disheartening, because I know that your Durbar has always shown the greatest foresight and energy in the measures taken to deal with this scourge, and I earnestly hope that their efforts will eventually meet with the success they have so well deserved.

I must again thank you for the cordiality of your greeting to Lady Minto, Lady Eileen Elliot and myself. I can assure you, Maharaja, we shall delight in our visit to your beautiful State and in the freedom of an out-of-door life in your Keddah Camp.

[The Viceroy then proposed the health of the Maharaja which was responded to with acclamation.]

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ADDRESSES FROM MYSORE PLANTERS AND COORG  
DEPUTATION.

27th Nov. 1909. [During His Excellency the Viceroy's stay in Mysore addresses from the Mysore Planters and a Deputation from Coorg were presented to His Excellency, to which the following replies were made:—]

MYSORE PLANTERS.

*Gentlemen*,—As the representative of the King-Emperor I have listened with pleasure to the expressions in your address of loyalty towards the Throne, and I thank you sincerely for your kind words of welcome to me on my first visit to Mysore. Though I have long been acquainted with the excellence of His Highness the Maharaja's rule, I am very glad of the opportunity afforded me of making myself personally acquainted with the local conditions

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*Addresses from Mysore Planters and Coorg Deputation.*

upon which the development of the resources of Mysore are so largely dependent.

The Government of India has never been neglectful of the planting industry, which is an important branch of Imperial agriculture, and I am glad to hear from you as British subjects that you recognise the benefits secured to you under His Highness's administration. And I understand the Mysore Durbar are generously contributing towards the salary of the Scientific Officer to whom you have alluded, although they possess an Expert Mycologist of their own, and until lately I believe employed an Agricultural Chemist who was of much service to the planters.

I understand you to refer to the difficulties which many coffee estates have to face owing to their distance from a railway,—the difficulty is no doubt a real one,—but I am under the impression that most planting districts in India are similarly remote from main lines of communication, owing to their often being situated in somewhat wild tracts of country with a sparse population with a view to obtaining a higher elevation and better rainfall. In this respect I am inclined to think the Mysore planters are probably as well off as their brethren in British India. Also they hold their land at cheap rates and on an assured tenure, the State is well supplied with roads, and their representations to the Durbar never fail to receive due attention.

As to the Labour question to which you allude and the necessity for special legislation, I would venture to remind you of the action already taken by the Government of India with a view to assisting you in this direction, whilst the Madras Act of 1893 gives power to Local Governments to issue a Notification authorising the execution within the Presidency of any processes issued under any Labour Act in any Native State. I understand that the Mysore Durbar approved the Bill when it was submitted to them in draft and considered that it would

*Addresses from Mysore Planters and Coorg Deputation.*

satisfactorily dispose of all difficulties and were ready to enact a similar law in Mysore State, and as far as my information goes it would seem to me that the reason why no such law has yet been passed in Mysore is probably due to the planters themselves not being entirely of one mind on the matter or generally convinced that such a law would on the whole be conducive to their interests. In the present circumstances therefore the question is, I think, one for consideration by your community, and I feel quite sure that if you agree as to the advisability of the application of a special Labour law you will find that your proposals will receive careful and sympathetic consideration from His Highness's Government.

I am extremely glad to have had this opportunity of making acquaintance with the Mysore planters and of listening to their views in respect to the interests of the great industry which they represent, and as to which it would be a great pleasure to me to give them every assistance in my power.

I thank you again, Gentlemen, for the kind words of your address.

**COORG DEPUTATION.**

*Gentlemen*,—Coorg is, as you tell me, far removed from railway communication, and it has hitherto been impossible for any Viceroy to visit it, but I am glad to have this opportunity of meeting a deputation from your loyal province and I thank you for your hearty words of welcome to Lady Minto and myself.

I hope that as years go on you will obtain the improved communications which you so naturally desire, though for the present smallness of traffic and the very costly nature of the work that any railway scheme would entail would appear to prohibit such an undertaking in the near future. I am very glad to hear from the Chief Commissioner that a project is under consideration for establishing a Renard Road Train Service. I hope that this may prove feasible,

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*Address from Bangalore Municipality.*

since such a service while itself a great improvement on the present means of transport will, in all probability, foster a traffic that might hereafter justify the construction of a railway.

I am glad to hear of your endeavours to preserve all that is good in the traditions of your race, that you are encouraging the rising generation to emulate the manly spirit of their forefathers, to retain their national customs, tenure and dress. I am glad, too, to hear of the care you are devoting to the education not only of your boys but of your girls, and are thereby doing much to assist Government in maintaining the policy of manning the public service of Coorg from amongst the inhabitants of the province.

I rejoice to hear that Coorg is recovering from the depression which followed on the fall of the price of coffee, and I sincerely trust that you will succeed by your industry and thrift in building up your material prosperity and in placing agriculture of every description on a permanent basis.

I again thank you sincerely, Gentlemen, for the cordiality of your greeting to Lady Minto and myself, and I shall have great pleasure in conveying your expressions of loyalty and devotion to His Majesty the King-Emperor.

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ADDRESS FROM BANGALORE MUNICIPALITY.

[Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Minto and Staff arrived at Bangalore in the evening of the 3rd December. They were met by the Resident at Mysore and various leading officials. After the usual presentations the Municipality presented an address, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen,*—I thank you for the address which you have presented to me on behalf of the civil and military community of Bangalore and for the cordial reception you have extended to Lady Minto and myself.

*Address from Bangalore Municipality.*

Bangalore has played an important part in the history of India, dating from the stormy times in which a British garrison was first established here—just 100 years ago—a garrison which laid the foundation of the most important station in Southern India—the welfare of which the Mysore Government have always been generously ready to further.

Your Municipal Commission may well be proud of the results of their administration, for they have not only made every use of the resources at their disposal, as regards water-supply and electric light, but have done much to alleviate the wants of the poorer portion of the population and to utilise in the public interests all the latest teachings of sanitary science. The extensions of the civil and military station with a view to removing the poorer classes from the congested parts of the bazaar and providing them with model dwellings together with the uniquely successful inoculation campaign against plague are the results of work for which the public have every reason to be grateful to the Commission, and which is all the more satisfactory because it owes so much of its success to the hearty co-operation of your citizens themselves.

I hope that the example of Bangalore may afford an useful object-lesson for the whole of India, and that the rewards of a sound system of sanitation will continue to be more and more appreciated.

I am glad to think that my visit to you will not be clouded by anxieties as to the scarcity of food and its consequent miseries, and it is very pleasant to hear of the rich harvest of the present year. I hope that it may usher in an era of ever-increasing prosperity.

I must again thank you, Gentlemen, for your words of welcome and can assure you that Lady Minto and I will carry away with us very happy recollections of our visit to the "Garden of Southern India."

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ADDRESS FROM THE KOLAR GOLD FIELDS  
MINING BOARD.

[The Viceroy and Lady Minto motored on the morning of the 4th 4th Dec. 1909 December to the Kolar Gold Fields, the Johannesburg of India, where they were met by Dr. Smith, State Geologist and Secretary to the Government of Mysore, and Mr. Gifford, Vice-Chairman of the Mining Board. They proceeded at once to Mr. Gifford's bungalow, where the road was lined with the well-known Kolar Gold Field Rifle Volunteers, who also furnished a guard-of-honour at the house, and a troop of Light Horse. The Viceroy inspected the guard-of-honour and warmly complimented Colonel Patterson, the Commandant, on the fine appearance of his men.

The following address was then presented to His Excellency :—

*May it please Your Excellency,*—We, the members of the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board, desire to offer our very sincere thanks to Your Excellency for so graciously accepting our invitation to include in Your Excellency's recent tour a visit to the Kolar Gold Fields, and to express our deep gratification for the opportunity thus afforded us of extending to Your Excellency a most respectful, but not the less hearty, welcome. We venture to regard Your Excellency's sympathetic interest in the gold mining enterprise in this country, and we trust that the statistics which we now submit for Your Excellency's information, as well as the evidences of the magnitude of our operations which we shall have the honour of exhibiting to Your Excellency to-day, will demonstrate the importance of our industry and the benefits which it affords, not only to the investor but to the people of the State in which it is carried on. The number of persons employed on the mines consists approximately of 530 Europeans, 330 Eurasians and 27,430 natives, who, with their families and dependants, make up a total population of about 80,000, a large proportion of whom are provided with house accommodation by the mining companies at nominal rentals. The scale of pay is a liberal one, and free medical treatment is provided for all, and in view of the fact that during the past ten years there has been no appreciable scarcity of labour, the management has reason to believe that the employees appreciate the conditions of service in the mines and are contented and happy. The Kolar Field, although small in point of area as compared with gold fields in other parts of the world, is now one of the richest. Its exploitation was energetically taken in hand nearly thirty years ago, since when 7,000,000 tons of quartz have been crushed, yielding by amalgamation and cyanidation processes 8,000,000 oz. of the precious



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*Address from the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board.*

metal, of the total of £31,000,000 sterling. Out of this sum the shareholders have received £12,800,000 in dividends, whilst £1,550,000 or 5 per cent. has been paid to the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore as royalty. At the present time, operations are being conducted by six British companies whose combined capital is £1,830,000 valued on the Home market at £6,000,000. The mining companies are exceedingly fortunate in the sympathy and support which they have at all times received at the hands of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, to whom they are especially grateful for the provision of electric power generated at the Cauvery Falls and conveyed to the mines over a distance of about ninety-two miles and for the installation of the Betamangalam water works (seven miles away) which supplies the gold field with an abundance of excellent water for mining and domestic purposes.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I am grateful for the opportunity you have afforded me of visiting the Kolar Gold Fields, and I heartily thank you for your cordial words of welcome.

My tour has, as you know, been a very full one—but I assure you it would have been a matter of sincere regret to me if I had not been able to include in it a visit to the Kolar Fields.

I am not quite unversed in the search for gold. Please do not for a minute imagine that I have the faintest claim to be a mining expert! but my visit to you brings back pleasant memories of the experiences of past years. You may perhaps recollect the great gold boom in Alaska,—in 1898 I think it was—and Lady Minto and I wandered almost in its wake along the Pacific coast to the Yukon and Dawson City—to make many friends whom we shall never forget amongst the advance guard of the mining world—adventurous warm-hearted spirits—wedded to the wild, hard, but yet fascinating life of the “creeks” of the Far West. There, it was generally what is called “placer mining”—the washing of alluvial gold, where the miner staked his claim for himself, and stood to win or lose off his own bat—a gamble—sometimes a good one—sometimes a bad one, but at any rate a gamble with all its charms!—and

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*Address from the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board.*

after that we made acquaintance with the deep shafts, and the quartz mining of the Kooknay in British Columbia, and to-day the recollection of many old experiences seem to revive again.

Conditions here are no doubt quite different to those I made acquaintance with long ago—but still the mining camps of the Far West and the great gold fields of other parts of the world are all alike in one important feature—they are centres of industry—great employers of labour. And there is something more than that to remember—for, Gentlemen, you are identified with an industry the successful administration of which is not merely represented by the result of profits, but by the high character it bears in the labour market and in the industrial and business world of India—an administration which, owing to the surroundings in which it exists, must always be very subject to the criticisms of the Indian public. The control of a population numbering as you tell me about 80,000 people entails great responsibilities, and from all I have heard the Mining Board can very justly claim that those responsibilities have been ably fulfilled towards European and Indian alike. Your employees are well cared for—well paid and well housed. At the same time I know that you have serious difficulties to contend with from special risks and dangers peculiar to the Kolar Mines, and that fatal accidents have provoked considerable public discussion, and though your European officers and subordinates risk their lives underground equally with the coolies, and though I believe you have adopted exceptional precautions for the safety of those who serve you, I feel confident that you will continue to lose no opportunity of discovering with the assistance of scientific enquiry the causes of the dangerous phenomena with which you have to deal and of obviating the distressing accidents which apparently tend to increase with the development of the field. I have no doubt you will surmount the difficulties which confront you; and I congratulate you on

*Addresses from various bodies at Madras.*

the growing importance of the industry you represent, which the enlightened policy of the Mysore Durbar and the happy relations which exist between His Highness's Government and yourselves have done so much to encourage. I wish you every success in the continued development of the great mineral resources in your charge.

Gentlemen, I warmly thank you for your generous allusions to my work in India. I shall always deeply value the appreciations you have so kindly expressed, and I shall carry away with me very lasting impressions of my visit to Kolar, and the encouraging words you have addressed to me to-day.

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ADDRESSES FROM VARIOUS BODIES AT MADRAS.

9th Dec. 1909. [On arrival at Madras the Viceroy and Lady Minto were received by Sir Arthur and Lady Lawley, Lieutenant-General Sir James Wolfe-Murray, Sir William Meyer and others. Guards-of-honour were furnished by the Wallajahad Light Infantry and the Madras Railway Volunteers. After inspecting them, the Viceroy drove with the Governor to the Banqueting Hall and Lady Minto and Lady Lawley followed in the second carriage and Lady Antrim and Lady Eileen Elliot in the third carriage. At the Banqueting Hall, Their Excellencies were met by the Chief Justice, Lady White, the Bishop of Madras and Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. and Mrs. Hammick, Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson, the Maharaja of Travancore, the Raja of Cochin, Sir Ralph and Lady Benson, General Evatt and a distinguished company. The guard-of-honour was furnished by the Dorsetshire Regiment. After breakfast His Excellency received the addresses from the Anjuman and the Madras Moslem League, the Chamber of Commerce, the Landholders' Association, the Mahajana Sabha, the Anglo-Indian Association, the Indian Christian Association, the Catholic Indian Association of South India and the Madras Provincial Congress Committee.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen,*—I am very glad of this opportunity of receiving the representatives of the various influential

*Addresses from various bodies at Madras.*

bodies which you represent, and I thank you for the warmth of the welcome you have extended to me on my first official visit to the capital of this great Presidency as the representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor.

My family have been so peculiarly connected with Madras that it is all the greater pleasure to me to have the opportunity of making the acquaintance of its citizens of to-day. It is a little more than 100 years ago since my great-grandfather landed here from the frigate *Modeste* to take up his appointment as Governor-General of Bengal and he subsequently resided here for a considerable time during the difficulties that arose from the mutiny at Vellore. His brother, Hugh Elliot, was subsequently Governor of the Presidency, whilst his daughter married the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras Army, Sir Thomas Hislop, who also commanded the Army of the Deccan and brought the Maharatta war to a close at the battle of Mahidpore in 1817, and his daughter was my mother. So that many recollections of bygone days have been handed down to me, which still further increase the interest of my visit to you.

I have listened attentively to the addresses which you have presented to me, and if in my reply I find myself unable to refer to particular points raised by individual Associations, I am sure you will understand that in expressing my best thanks for the reception you have given me I can hardly accept the present occasion as one upon which I could fittingly discuss contentious questions, which necessarily must in the first place reach me through your distinguished Governor, who, if the subject should be one affecting the policy of the Government of India or of His Majesty's Government, would forward your requests with such remarks as he might think they called for. I can therefore only refer very generally to a few of the points to which you have alluded.

As a landholder myself I can thoroughly sympathise with the interests of the Landholders Association in respect to

*Addresses from various bodies at Madras.*

any legislation affecting proprietary estates, and I am glad to hear that they recognise the careful consideration given to the Estates Act by the Governments of Madras and India as well as by the Secretary of State. I can assure them that the working of the new enactment will be watched with careful attention. The prosperity of landed proprietors is directly connected with the agricultural interests to which the Mahajana Sabha have referred and with which the question of the high prices of food stuffs is interlaced, constituting a great problem which is now under the consideration of the Government of India.

I am glad to hear from the Chamber of Commerce of the development of shipping facilities in Madras. The assistance however given by Government in the past has been so liberal that I am afraid I can scarcely hold out hopes of any further financial assistance. As to other harbours, the Local Government will doubtless consider any question of their improvement, but as yet no representation has reached the Government of India.

I notice the Chamber refers also to the registration of partnerships. I can only say that the question has been fully considered and that until a greater degree of unanimity prevails in regard to it among the Indian as well as the European mercantile community it is scarcely possible for the Government to deal further with the matter.

I am very glad to hear from the Anglo-Indian Association of the natural eagerness of Anglo-Indians to take their share in the service of the country. The Government of India is not at all unmindful of their claims, as I think has been recently demonstrated in the case of admissions to the Madras Engineering College. And I may say the same in respect to the remarks of the Indian Christian Association and the Catholic Indian Association, and can assure them that from enquiries I have made I am satisfied their interests will not be lost sight of.

I have been much interested in listening to the Mahom-

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*Addresses from various bodies at Madras.*

medan Educational Association's description of the lines upon which it is carrying out its work. I am a great believer in the practical good to be derived from technical training in useful industries, and I am well aware of the difficulties the Mahommedan community has had to face in matters of educational advancement. I can assure the Association that they have my sincere sympathy in the furtherance of the objects they have in view, and I must thank them for their generous recognition of Lady Minto's effort on behalf of the women of India.

It is very encouraging to hear from the Provincial Congress Committee of the growing cordiality of the relations between the people of India and the Government. The committee is professedly a political organization and is also, as its representatives have told me, the mouthpiece of many districts and of a large body of political opinion in this Presidency. All they have to say is therefore of special interest at the present moment when a great scheme of political reform has just been launched. That scheme has aimed at granting to the people of India the fulfilment of principles of administration, but it cannot in the early days of its introduction be expected to be perfect in all its details. I would venture to advise the Committee that they can best serve the political interests of their fellow-countrymen at the present moment by assisting the Government to ensure the success of the scheme in its early stages and by leaving alone for the present the academic discussion of small points, until the public has had some experience of the practical working of the new machinery. It is upon the good sense of political committees such as that which has addressed me to-day that the Government must largely rely for broadminded assistance.

I cannot sufficiently thank you, Gentlemen, for the many kind words which you have addressed to me on behalf of your Associations and for your appreciation of the work

*Presentation of Colours to the Dorsetshire Regiment.*

I have endeavoured to the best of my ability to carry out on behalf of India and her many communities. If I have in any way contributed to their future happiness and the better administration of their country I shall have earned the reward I most value. I cannot tell you how great a disappointment it has been to me to be obliged to cancel a portion of my visit to Southern India. I had so much looked forward to seeing something of the beauties of Madura, Trichinopoly and Tanjore of which I have heard so much and to making acquaintance with their people, and I sincerely regret the fruitless trouble and expenditure which I am afraid I am answerable for. I very fully share with them in any disappointment I have unavoidably been the cause of.

I must thank you again, Gentlemen, for the heartiness of your greeting to Lady Minto and to myself, and I assure you we shall carry away with us very warm recollections of our reception by the citizens of Madras.

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PRESENTATION OF COLOURS TO THE DORSETSHIRE  
REGIMENT.

10th Dec. 1909. [Early morning to-day streams of carriages poured in to witness the parade of the Dorset Regiment and presentation of colours to the regiment by His Excellency the Viceroy. The verandahs to the east of the Banqueting Hall were packed with European officers and influential native gentlemen who evinced much enthusiasm in witnessing the grand parade of the Dorsets on the turfs of the lawn opposite the Government House at 7-30. His Excellency the Viceroy in plain military suit and Lady Minto, followed by the Military Secretary, the Governor and Lady Lawley, proceeded to a shamiana, where the Lord Bishop of Madras, Mrs. Whitehead, Sir Arnold White, the Maharaja of Travancore, the Raja of Cochin, the Misses Lawley and A.-D.-Cs. were assembled. There the scene was entirely novel, The colours playing round the lines, the troops marched past at a walk. His Excellency the Viceroy inspected the troops and watched

*Presentation of Colours to the Dorsetshire Regiment.*

the proceedings from the shamiana. The display was grand. The troops advanced in saluting order and halted. His Excellency the Viceroy warmly congratulated the Commander. The colours were placed at the centre and the Lord Bishop of Madras, followed by the Domestic Chaplain, gave a benediction prayer. The lines in the meanwhile curved into a hollow square. The choir then raised the strains of the grand old hymn. His Excellency the Viceroy then, in presenting the colours to the Dorsets, spoke as follows :—]

*Colonel Bonus, Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers and men of the Dorset Regiment*,—I am very pleased at having this opportunity of presenting new colours to a Regiment with such a long record of distinguished services. Your regiment has fought and won laurels all over the world ; and in the early days of British rule in India earned for itself the proud title of “*Primus in Indis*” in recognition of its undaunted bravery and conspicuous valour at the battle of Plassey. Later in the century it served through the memorable siege of Gibraltar under an ancestor of mine, General Sir Augustus Elliot, who was created Lord Heathfield, and in 1801 was with Sir Ralph Abercromby in Egypt, took part in the desperate assault on Fort Marabout, and at the conclusion of the campaign returned to Gibraltar again, where it added still further to the reputation it had already earned. Then came the Peninsular War, and your old colours have proudly vouched for the gallant deeds of your predecessors in the glorious victories of the Duke of Wellington.

After that, at varying intervals, war followed upon war in Burma, in the Crimea, in Tirah, and in South Africa—the regiment was present through them all, continuing always to build up for itself a splendid record of many hard-fought fields.

But it is not on land alone that it was distinguished, for in old days it served much afloat with His Majesty’s Navy, and in 1775 assisted in the burning of the enemy’s privateers in the harbour of New York, which was I believe the origin of its nickname “*The Flamers*,” whilst every-



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*Address from Madras Municipality.*

one has heard of the magnificent exploit of the saving of the *Sarah Sands* troopship, when she caught fire 1,000 miles from land when conveying the regiment to the help of our countrymen during the time of the Mutiny. The Army Order extolling its discipline on that occasion was read at the head of every regiment in the service.

Colonel Bonus, your regiment may well be proud of its traditions, and I present these new colours to their keeping, knowing that they will be cherished with the same bravery and loyal devotion which has adorned the annals of your regimental history.

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#### ADDRESS FROM MADRAS MUNICIPALITY.

11th Dec. 1909. [During the Viceroy's stay in Madras, His Excellency was presented with an address by the Municipality.

The points brought forward in the address were the better supply of drinking water, which caused much anxiety, and the Drainage Scheme, for both of which Government help was solicited.

The address also asked the Viceroy to lay the foundation-stone of the new Municipal Offices, which ceremony His Excellency performed. The Viceroy replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen,*—The reception Lady Minto and I have received from the citizens of Madras has been so cordial that it is difficult for me to thank you sufficiently, and I can only tell you we sincerely appreciate the friendly greetings which have met us on all sides.

I have listened with interest to all you have told me of the administrative problems with which your Municipality has to deal, but to which I hesitate to refer, requiring as they do technical and local knowledge, in which I am of course deficient. I know, however, of the difficulties which have confronted you in respect to your water-supply, and I trust that the scheme which has now been sanctioned for filtering and pumping the water will prove successful.

*Address from Madras Municipality.*

You have had even greater troubles to face in the inauguration of a new drainage system. It is easy to understand that the drainage of a city built upon peculiarly flat ground and covering a very extensive area must of necessity constitute a serious engineering problem—a problem which has already caused you much anxiety, whilst attempts to solve it on mistaken lines have, I am afraid, committed you to very considerable and fruitless expenditure in the past. I hope, however, that the new scheme to which you have alluded will fulfil the expectations that have been formed and raise the standard of sanitation of Madras to a level thoroughly worthy of the capital of your Presidency. Also, I trust it may not be unreasonable to believe that a growing prosperity may possibly justify an expansion of revenue from your municipal assessments, may assist your sources of income, and enable you to meet without further assistance the costly charges of the improvements which the public very naturally look forward to.

I am grateful for the opportunity you have afforded me of laying the foundation-stone of your new Municipal Offices, designed by Mr. Harris, and am glad to hear from you that they will, both in architectural beauty and modern arrangements, meet all the increasing demands of your city and also that they will perpetuate the memory of Lord Ripon. The bestowal upon them of his name is peculiarly appropriate inasmuch as the introduction of local self-government in India was due to him, and no Viceroy ever laboured as earnestly as he did to encourage the people of India to interest themselves in the management of their own affairs. He fought hard against much opposition in those early days, and I trust the seeds which he sowed may be about to bear useful fruit at last.

I heartily thank you again, Gentlemen, for your address. I assure you that Lady Minto and I will never forget the beauties of Madras and the loyal and cordial welcome of her citizens,

## IMPERIAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

## FIRST MEETING OF REFORMED COUNCIL.

25th Jan. 1910. [The first meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council as reconstituted and enlarged under the Reforms Scheme was held on Tuesday at 11 A.M. The Old Council Chamber, where the meetings used to be held, was re-arranged and newly furnished by Messrs. Lazarus & Co., the well-known cabinet makers, upholsterers, etc., of Calcutta. On the east and west side of the room were two raised galleries, one reserved for the Press, while the other was intended for the visitors. On the east, a dais had been erected for the accommodation of His Excellency the President, while in front of him had been arranged several rows of benches, upholstered in morocco leather, in the form of an amphitheatre. The first row on the right-hand side of the President was especially reserved for the members of the Executive Council. All the members were present with the exception of the Hon'ble Mr. W. L. Harvey and the Hon'ble Mir Allah Baksh Khan. Three more seats were also vacant, and that was due to the fact that three Hon'ble Members had not yet been nominated. Almost all the seats in the visitors' gallery were taken up by ladies and gentlemen. Among the distinguished visitors present were: Her Excellency Lady Minto, Lady Jenkins, Mrs. Chitty, Sir George Sutherland, Mr. K. G. Gupta and Mr. A. Ahmad. Her Excellency, Lady Eileen Elliot and Miss Katherine Jones occupied seats on the floor on the right-hand side of the Viceroy's dais under the Press gallery.

His Excellency on arrival requested the members to take the oath or affirmation of allegiance to His Majesty the King. The Hon'ble Mr. J. M. Macpherson, Legislative Secretary, was the first member who left his seat to take the oath, which done, he bowed to His Excellency and after going round the Presidential chair signed his name in a book which was lying on a table in front of His Excellency, and was in charge of Dr. Banerjee, Legal Assistant to the Legislative Department. The same procedure was observed in the case of every member. The Hon'ble Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan in taking his oath took out a "Gita" from his vest pocket and kissed the sacred book. The Hon'ble Raja Partab Bahadur Singh, C.I.E., of Partabgarh, who represents the landed aristocracy of Oudh, took his oath in Urdu; while according to the Jewish custom, the Hon'ble Sir Sassoon David performed the ceremony placing a handkerchief on the crown of his head and kissing only the Old Testament. The ceremony of taking the oath lasted for about thirty-seven minutes.

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The Viceroy then rose and made the following speech, at the conclusion of which His Excellency was loudly cheered :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I welcome the members of this newly-constituted Imperial Council on their first assembly at the capital of the Indian Empire.

The occasion is replete with political meaning. It marks the close of a system of administration which, under the guidance of many illustrious statesmen, has contributed much to the prosperity of India and to the glories of her history—it opens a new era with the inauguration of broader principles of government, and though this Council Room is ill-adapted for the accommodation of our increased numbers and for the convenience of the public, it has seemed best to me that we should first assemble within the walls of the palace which Wellesley founded, and in the Council Chamber hallowed by the legislative traditions of the last 100 years.

Those years have witnessed the consolidation of the Indian Empire as it exists to-day—they tell a story of troubles and anxieties, of hard-won successes and many glorious episodes—but they have throughout been years of recurring administrative changes in harmony with social progress and an advance in political thought largely due to the results of an education system introduced into India by British rulers.

It has been a period of evolution. We have moved in successive stages from Wellesley's small Supreme Council appointed by the Board of Control—to the days of Lord William Bentinck and the Charter Act of 1833—to the conquering rule of Lord Dalhousie and the Charter Act of 1853—to the Council Acts of 1861 and 1892—great landmarks in Indian history. And each successive stage has witnessed either the grant of larger legislative powers to the Government of India or an increasing recognition of the necessity for broadening the basis of administration upon lines more representative of the general interests of

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the country. That necessity was first met by the nomination, and subsequently by the *quasi*-election, of additional members of the Governor-General's Council. The first additional member was appointed nearly 80 years ago under the Act of 1833. That member was Lord Macaulay. Since then the machinery affecting their appointment has been gradually adapted to meet varying conditions, whilst their numbers were increased to a possible sixteen by the Act of 1892. That Act, like its predecessors, has been superseded by the adoption of more advanced legislation, and in accordance with the Act of 1909 this newly-constituted Imperial Council is now for the first time assembled.

I have merely ventured to sketch the progress of British legislation, because I cannot but feel that much of the criticism of the recent policy of the Government of India has been oblivious of past history, and has been based upon the assumption that the India of 20 years ago can continue to be the India of to-day. That is an impossibility—many influences have combined to make it so—and we have had to follow in the footsteps of the statesmen who have preceded us, and to recognise that British rule must again be re-adapted to novel conditions,—conditions far more novel than any with which our predecessors had to deal, in that political forces unknown to them have come into existence in India which it is no longer possible for British administrators to ignore, whilst the trend of events in the Far East has accentuated the ambitions of Eastern populations. When I took up the reins of government as Viceroy in the late autumn of 1905, all Asia was marvelling at the victories of Japan over a European power,—their effects were far-reaching—new possibilities seemed to spring into existence—there were indications of popular demands in China, in Persia, in Egypt, and in Turkey, there was an awakening of the Eastern World, and though to outward appearances India was quiet,—in the sense that

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there was at that moment no visible acute political agitation—she had not escaped the general infection, and before I had been in the country a year I shared the view of my Colleagues that beneath a seemingly calm surface there existed a mass of smothered political discontent, much of which was thoroughly justifiable, and due to causes which we were called upon to examine. We heartily recognised the loyalty of the masses of the people of India, and we were not prepared to suppress new, but not unnatural, aspirations without examination. You cannot sit for ever on a safety valve, no matter how sound the boiler may be. Something had to be done and we decided to increase the powers and expand the scope of the Act of 1892.

It is important that my Hon'ble Colleagues and the Indian public should know the history, the early history at any rate, of the reforms which have now been sanctioned by Parliament. They had their genesis in a note of my own addressed to my Colleagues in August 1906—nearly 3½ years ago. It was based entirely on the views I had myself formed of the position of affairs in India. It was due to no suggestions from home—whether it was good or bad I am entirely responsible for it. It dealt with the conditions it appeared to me the Government of India had then to consider, and as it is answerable for much that has followed in its wake, my Hon'ble Colleagues will perhaps allow me to read it to them. This is what I then wrote—

“I feel sure my Colleagues will agree with me that Indian affairs and the methods of Indian Administration have never attracted more public attention in India and at home than at the present moment. The reasons for their doing so are not far to seek. The growth of education, which British rule has done so much to encourage, is bearing fruit. Important classes of the population are learning to realise their own position, to estimate for themselves

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their own intellectual capacities, and to compare their claims for an equality of citizenship with those of a ruling race, whilst the directing influences of political life at home are simultaneously in full accord with the advance of political thought in India.

"To what extent the people of India as a whole are as yet capable of serving in all branches of administration, to what extent they are individually entitled to a share in the political representation of their country, to what extent it may be possible to weld together the traditional sympathies and antipathies of many different races and different creeds, and to what extent the great hereditary rulers of Native States should assist to direct Imperial policy, are problems which the experience of future years can alone gradually solve.

"But we, the Government of India, cannot shut our eyes to present conditions. The political atmosphere is full of change, questions are before us which we cannot afford to ignore, and which we must attempt to answer, and to me it would appear all-important that the initiative should emanate from us, that the Government of India should not be put in the position of appearing to have its hands forced by agitation in this country or by pressure from home, that we should be the first to recognise surrounding conditions and to place before His Majesty's Government the opinions which personal experience and a close touch with the every-day life of India entitle us to hold.

"This view I feel sure my Colleagues share with me. Mr. Morley cordially approves it, and in pursuance of it announced, on my authority, in his recent Budget speech, my intention of appointing a Committee from the Viceroy's Council to consider the question of possible reforms.

"Such enquiries have, as you are aware, taken place before. There was the Commission, over which Sir Charles Aitchison presided, to enquire into the employment of Indians in the public services, and we have also the notable

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report of the Committee appointed by Lord Dufferin to consider proposals for the reconstruction of Legislative Councils on a representative basis (1888), over which Sir George Chesney presided, and of which the present Lord Macdonnell was Secretary. It is curious to see from that report how similar conditions and arguments were then to what they are now; with one great exception that we have now to deal with a further growth of nearly twenty years of increasing political aspirations.

“But though increased representation is still the popular cry as it was in 1888, other demands, or rather suggestions, are shaping themselves out of a foreshadowed metamorphosis. We are told of a Council of Princes, of an Indian Member of the Viceroy’s Executive Council, of an Indian Member on the Secretary of State’s Council, and in addition to the older claims put forward on behalf of increased representation on the Legislative Councils, we are asked to consider new procedure as to presentation of the Budget to the Viceroy’s Legislative Council, a prolongation of the Budget Debate, and further opportunity for financial discussion. As to possibilities such as these, I would be grateful for the opinion of the Committee I hope to appoint, limiting myself for the present to only one opinion that in any proposal for the increase of representation it is absolutely necessary to guard the important interests existing in the country, as expressed in paragraph 7, page 3, of the Report of Sir Charles Aitchison’s Committee, *viz.*,—

- (a) the interests of the hereditary nobility and landed classes who have a great permanent stake in the country;
- (b) the interests of the trading, professional and agricultural classes;
- (c) the interests of the planting and commercial European community; and
- (d) the interests of stable and effective administration.



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“ The subjects I should propose to refer to the Committee are :—

- (a) A Council of Princes, and if this is not possible might they be represented on the Viceroy’s Legislative Council ?
- (b) An Indian Member of the Viceroy’s Council.
- (c) Increased representation on the Legislative Council of the Viceroy and of Local Governments.
- (d) Prolongation of the Budget Debate. Procedure as to presentation of the Budget and powers of moving amendments.

“ The Minute is circulated for the information of Members of Council, from whom I shall be glad to receive any suggestions or expressions of opinion which they may desire to make, and which will be communicated to the Committee.

“ When the Committee has reported, their Report will be laid before Council for full consideration.”

That note elicited valuable opinions and was fully discussed in Council, and though, as you are aware, its suggestions were not accepted in their entirety by the Government of India, it laid the foundation of the first scheme of reform they submitted to the Secretary of State.

Since it was written, Lord Morley has fought India’s battles in both Houses of Parliament in many great and memorable speeches, and there has been a constant interchange of correspondence between him and the Government of India. Much of it has not as yet been made public, but as regards the reform of the Legislative Councils I commit no breach of confidence in indicating the lines which the Government of India has endeavoured to follow. We have distinctly maintained that representative Government in its Western sense is totally inapplicable to the Indian Empire and would be uncongenial to the traditions of Eastern populations—that Indian conditions do not admit of popular

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representation—that the safety and welfare of this country must depend on the supremacy of British administration—and that that supremacy can, in no circumstances, be delegated to any kind of representative assembly.

But we have been deeply impressed by the changing political conditions alluded to in my note, and we have endeavoured to meet them by broadening the representation authorised by the Council Act of 1892, by expanding its rules of procedure and facilitating opportunities for debate, by inviting the leaders of Indian public opinion to become fellow-workers with us in British administration, and by securing the representation of those important interests and communities which go to form the real strength of India, whilst at the same time recognising the claims of educational advance. We have borne in mind the hopes held out to the people of India in Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1858.

We have felt that the political atmosphere of a bureaucracy may become close and confined, and that the admittance of outside air is beneficial to its health and strength. We have aimed at the reform and enlargement of our Councils, but not at the creation of Parliaments. I emphasise what I have just said in view of the opinions to which advanced Indian politicians appear not unfrequently to commit themselves.

The machinery of our scheme was explained in our Resolution of November 15th. There is no necessity for me to analyse it—it has already been fully discussed by the public. We by no means claim perfection for it, we know that there will be much to learn from experience of its working, and that it may require alteration in the future, but if I have judged Indian public opinion correctly, the verdict has been in our favour in admitting the necessity for administrative changes, and the general soundness of the lines we have followed. Of course we have met with many criticisms. It would have been unfortunate indeed,

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if a scheme of vast political moment had not elicited discussion and diversity of opinion. But there is one criticism which I refuse to accept—the suggestion that the Councils Act of 1909 is the result of concessions to seditious agitation. There is no foundation for any such assumption—unless the recognition of the political condition of India in 1906, as I have endeavoured to describe it, is to be reckoned as a concession—though it was a recognition the necessity for which no responsible administrators could disregard. The murders at Mozufferpore were the first of the political crimes which have horrified all India, and they were perpetrated 1½ years after my Councils Committee had commenced to formulate their reform proposals. Then came the Manicktollah Garden discoveries, followed at intervals by a repetition of outrages, mysterious in their origin. Was the Government of India in the face of those outrages, and on account of them, to renounce the conclusions they had deliberately come to, and to throw overboard their schemes for reform? Were they to be frightened by an anarchical plot out of a policy they had deliberately adopted? I absolutely refuse to admit that the just aspirations of the loyal subjects of the King-Emperor should be jeopardised by traitorous conspirators. That is a concession I will not agree to.

But it is unfortunately too true that the progress of the work upon which we have been engaged, and in the completion of which we hoped to confer a welcome boon upon the people of India, has been marred by a succession of abominable crimes which have forced my Government into one repressive measure after another. And yesterday, on the eve of the assembly of this Council, a faithful and gallant public servant was brutally murdered within the precincts of the High Court and in the broad light of day. A spirit hitherto unknown to India has come into existence, a spirit opposed to all the teachings of Indian religion and traditions, a spirit of anarchy and

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lawlessness which seeks to subvert not only British rule but the governments of Indian Chiefs, to whom I am so deeply indebted for their loyal assistance. We are called upon to deal with subterranean machinations, and methods of assassination and robbery, dangerous to the public safety and discreditable to the fair fame of India. We are aware of associations which are doing their best to inveigle into their meshes the youth of the country poisoned by the dissemination of revolutionary literature which, out of a chivalrous unwillingness to interfere with any form of freedom of speech, British administrations have tolerated for too long. Present dangers we are prepared to meet, and the moral training of the rising generation our duty will no longer allow us to neglect. We can no longer tolerate the preachings of a revolutionary press. We are determined to bridle literary license. I am glad to believe that the support of an enlarged Council will go far to assure the Indian public of the soundness of any measures we may deem it right to introduce.

I had hoped to open this new Council under an unclouded political sky. No one has longed more earnestly than I have to allow bygones to be bygones, and to commence a new administrative era with a clean slate. The course of recent events has cancelled the realisation of those hopes, and I can but assert that the first duty of every government is to maintain the observance of the law,—to provide for the present, and as far as it can for the future welfare of the populations committed to its charge,—to rule, and, if need be, to rule with a strong hand.

But, Gentlemen, though I have no wish to disguise from you the anxieties of the moment, I do not for an instant admit that the necessity of ruthlessly eradicating a great evil from our midst should throw more than a passing shadow over the general political situation in India. I believe that situation to be better than it was five years ago. We must not allow immediate dangers to blind us to the

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evidences of future promise. I believe that the broadening of political representation has saved India from far greater troubles than those we have now to face. I am convinced that the enlargement of our administrative machinery has enormously strengthened the hands of the Viceroy and of the Government of India, and has brought factors to our aid which would otherwise have had no sympathy with us. I believe above all that the fellow-service of British and Indian administrators under a supreme British Government is the key to the future political happiness of this country. It is in that belief that I have worked hard for India, and when I see around me to-day the representatives of the powerful communities and interests, for whom I pleaded in my note, I feel convinced that the dignity and good sense of this Council will be worthily maintained, and that the navigation of the Indian ship of state will be loyally and ably assisted.

And now that my tenure of my high office is drawing to a close, I hope I may feel that my years of work have borne some fruit, and I am grateful to Providence in that He has spared me to be present on this great historical occasion.

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### PRESS LAW.

8th Feb. 1910. [In order to prevent the spread of sedition and anarchy by seditious writing a Bill for the better control of the Press was introduced into the Legislative Council on Friday the 4th February 1910.

After reference to a Select Committee the measure was fully discussed in Council on Tuesday the 8th idem and was passed into law with only 2 dissentients.

His Excellency in closing the proceedings spoke as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—This is the first great measure which has been dealt with by the new Imperial Council, and I congratulate Hon'ble Members on the thoughtful tone of the

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speeches to which we have listened, and though some exception has been taken to the nature of the powers conferred upon Local Governments, I would ask Hon'ble Members to bear in mind that in framing the Bill the Government of India has had to consider, and to meet as far as possible, very considerable diversities of public opinion. We believe that the Act as now passed avoids unnecessary and irritating interference, and at the same time affords ample machinery for dealing with the evil it is intended to meet. The causes which have rendered legislation necessary were so fully and ably explained to you by Sir Herbert Risley on Friday last and were so eloquently laid before you by the Hon'ble Mr. Sinha to-day that I need not attempt to repeat them to you. I would rather draw your attention to the political importance and significance of to-day's discussion. The members of this greatly enlarged Council, thoroughly representative of Indian interests, have passed what may be justly called a repressive measure, because they believe with the Government of India that that measure is essential to the welfare of this country. In so doing they have furnished the proof which I have always hoped and believed that they would furnish—that increased representation of Indian interests and communities would not weaken, but would vastly strengthen, British administration. That being so, I hope I am right in assuming that we are at the commencement of that new political era of which I have so often spoken, and that the presence on this Council of the leading public men of India may afford the Viceroy's Government the loyal advice of which it has so often stood in need.

In accordance with this view the Government of India has decided to obliterate, as far as they have it in their power to obliterate, the sore feeling caused by the action which has been forced upon them by past emergencies. We have determined to release the State prisoners who were deported under Regulation III of 1818, 14 months

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ago. Our justification for their release is based upon the belief that the political position has entirely changed, that the political movement of which they were the leaders—seditious as it was—has degenerated into an anarchical plot, which can no longer be legitimately included as part of the political agitation in which they were so culpably implicated. We believe that we are no longer confronted by a political movement such as they inaugurated, but are face to face with an anarchical conspiracy waging war against British and Indian communities alike, and that it will be long before we can exterminate the evil unless those communities agree to work together hand in hand. We believe that their mutual efforts will be greatly encouraged by the release of the deportees as showing that Government is willing to trust the influential classes of the people and to rely upon their co-operation and loyalty.

But though we have come to this decision, we cannot for an instant disregard the probability of further attempts at outrages, and that probability we are determined to combat with all the weapons at our disposal.

In the meantime we trust that the Act which this Council has passed to-day will efficiently control the source from which so much evil has emanated.

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### CONVOCATION OF THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY.

12th Mar. 1910. [The annual convocation of the University of Calcutta for conferring degrees was held at the Senate House on Saturday afternoon. His Excellency the Chancellor presided. Owing to the presence of His Excellency special police arrangements had to be made and officers of the Criminal Investigation Department were seen in the hall seated among the students. There were 3 Ph.D.'s; 9 M.A.'s; 261 B.A.'s; 45 B.Sc.'s; 14 B.T.'s; 1 D.L.; 94 B.L.'s; 1 M.D.; 7 M.B.'s; 39 2nd L.M.S.'s; 6 B.E.'s; and 2 Maharaja Sir J. M. Tagore Medalists. Sobhanabala Rakhit was the only lady graduate who obtained the Padmavati Gold Medal after passing the B.A. Examination from the Bethune College.

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His Excellency the Chancellor having declared the convocation open, degrees were presented to the candidates by the Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor then in the course of a lengthy address referred to the death and retirement of members of Senate. He then spoke on the work of University towards higher studies for the benefit of advanced students. After referring to the effect of the enforcement of new Regulations, the Vice-Chancellor reviewed the work of inspection and criticism of affiliated colleges. He next made the following observations regarding the discipline of students:—The question of the discipline of our students has engaged the earnest attention of the University. It will not be disputed by any careful observer that the growth of a tendency to commit breaches of discipline, to indulge in disrespect and defiance of authority, and to rush headlong into the vortex of political agitation and demonstration, which was so widely prevalent among students two or three years ago, does appear to have been arrested. I wish it were possible to maintain further that the situation is now wholly free from danger. I am by no means anxious to take a pessimistic view of the matter, but it would be idle to deny that the conditions, under which a large proportion of our students live, afford them little or no protection from the path of evil and ultimate ruin. In not a few instances innocent boys and young men of promise, peacefully engaged in the pursuit of their studies, have drunk deep from the fountains of poisonous literature, and have been captured by designing men who have beguiled them into the paths of crime. It is manifest that the danger is neither slight nor easily remediable. In this matter, as in many others, the University must rely mainly upon the active and cordial co-operation of the principals and professors of colleges, of teachers in schools, and of the guardians of the students. On more than one occasion, during the last twelve months, the University has appealed to them for assistance, so as to keep the students away from the unwholesome excitement and distractions of political agitation and demonstrations, and it is worthy of note that our efforts in this direction have met with a ready response and have not been altogether fruitless. We are, of course, not concerned as a University with those who have stepped into the paths of idleness or vice, who have abandoned the pursuit of their studies, and are no longer under our control. But it is our paramount duty to afford adequate protection to the innocent and guileless, and to save them, if need be, even from the verge of ruin. The problem is by no means easy of solution, but there are, I venture to think, two powerful and effective remedies at our disposal. In the first place, a systematic extension of the residential system is immediately needed; in the second place, a well-planned and determined effort must be made to



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impart moral instruction to our boys in schools and to our young men in colleges at every stage of their career. In so far as the development of the residential system is concerned, the progress we have hitherto made has been neither rapid nor satisfactory. The principal difficulty is one of funds and I make no secret of my conviction that without a liberal grant-in-aid from the State, continued for many years and supplemented by private effort on an equally extensive scale, it is impossible to provide colleges and schools with adequate and well-managed places of residence for their students. No expenditure, in this direction, can however be deemed excessive, when we realize how great and obvious the danger is, when young men at the most impressionable period of their lives, are left free to imbibe dangerous doctrines not conducive to mental health and discipline. On the other hand, it must be conceded that an equally obvious danger may arise with the expansion of the residential system, unless the students gathered together are brought into intimate personal relation with their teachers and professors, and receive healthy inspiration from them. The success of the residential system must consequently be dependent, in a large measure, upon the devotion and sagacity, the wisdom and sympathy of our teachers. The practical value of the protection from evil which may thus be afforded may be substantially enhanced, if facilities are afforded for systematic moral instruction. Ever since the famous resolution of the Government of India on the subject, issued more than twenty years ago, the subject has been kept in public view, but no well-planned scheme has ever been developed. I do not for a moment suggest that any practical or permanent advantage is likely to be gained, if students are made merely to commit to memory ethical rules and formulas selected from the great writers of the past or if they are induced to examine the primary grounds of moral obligation; but I do maintain that special arrangements ought to be made to present regularly to youthful minds concrete instances of noble and virtuous life. If the elements which constitute the groundwork of a noble character, and are destructive of the ignoble parts of our nature, are thus systematically illustrated, and indelibly impressed upon the minds of our students and young men throughout their career in school and college, if further they are carefully trained as they grow older in the process of self-examination and self-criticism, there cannot be the remotest doubt that the most beneficial results will follow in the development of a robust moral character and of a fine feeling of loyalty and devotion amongst them.

There is only one other topic of fundamental importance to which I must allude on the present occasion. For the attainment of these objects, we must be dependent almost entirely upon the loyal and

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enthusiastic co-operation of the gentlemen to whom is entrusted the training of our youths. For the members of the teaching profession I entertain the highest respect and admiration, and the mode in which by far the largest majority amongst them have hitherto discharged their responsible duties even in time of ferment and excitement, has been really worthy of the highest commendation. It is a matter for the keenest regret, however, that in isolated instances, individual teachers and professors have betrayed themselves into actions and utterances unworthy of the position of trust they occupied. The University has, without hesitation, interfered whenever conduct so unbecoming in a teacher or professor has been brought to its notice. Each particular position in life has its own special duties and responsibilities, which modify and limit individual liberty of action in a way and to an extent which may not admit of precise definition, much less of legal enforcement, but which all the same may be generally indicated with sufficient clearness from a common-sense point of view. A teacher scrupulously abstains from political matters within his class-room, but at the same time he devotes much or all of his leisure hours to political activities and agitation; his name is prominently before the world in connection with political organizations and functions; the newspaper press constantly quotes or reports political speeches made by him on public occasions: what effect may all this be legitimately expected to have on the minds of his pupils, specially if his actions and utterances are not always of the most discreet character. The answer cannot be doubtful: their minds will inevitably be attracted towards political affairs and political agitation, for the reason that it is this which evidently constitutes the main life-interest and lifework of one who stands towards them in a position of authority and to whom they are habituated, and in most cases, no doubt, perfectly willing, to look up with respect and deference. This kind of influence will naturally be most potent in the case of those teachers who have managed to acquire a firm hold on the minds of their pupils by altogether legitimate and praiseworthy means—men whom their pupils like and esteem, possibly love and revere, as persons of high scholarly attainments, as painstaking and devoted instructors, adorned with many of the virtues of private life and taking a friendly or fatherly interest in the welfare of those entrusted to their charge. In fact, among teachers of this description, the most effectual propaganda for political pursuits will be made just by those who excel most highly in their profession and who in a wider sense are the best men. We parents and natural guardians do not desire our boys to be prematurely drawn into political activity or even political speculations by the influence of any man, however

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worthy and excellent he may be. Assume that the teacher who makes politics the business of his life, however extreme his political views and aspirations may be, is a man of some experience of life and affairs. But how about the boys whom his example prompts and inspires? Can we justly expect that they, all of them, should be wise and cautious as well as eager and enthusiastic, should manage to discriminate successfully between what is permissible and legitimate and what is not, should have themselves sufficiently in hand to stop and reflect before the ardour of their convictions urges them on lines of action subversive of the peace and order of the community and probably destructive to themselves? The lamentable experience of recent years leaves no room for controversy; there is clearly no basis for any such expectation, and it is thereon that we base our emphatic objection to any sort of influence which tends to impart to the minds of our boys a premature bias towards politics. I look at the matter entirely from the academic point of view, and I earnestly call upon teachers who hold it to be their duty to figure as active politicians out of school or college hours, to reflect on the special responsibilities incident to their station in life, in the present circumstances of the country. I make no secret of my deepest conviction that men of this type, however honourable they may be, are not safe guides of the young.

His Excellency the Chancellor said :—]

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, this is the last occasion upon which I shall have the honour of opening this Convocation, and I would venture warmly to congratulate you upon your eloquent address to this distinguished audience. You are well aware, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, of my sympathy with all you have said as to the momentous future importance of moral training, and the invaluable personal influences which should be wielded by the teachers of the rising generation. On the recognition of these two great necessities the future happiness of India largely depends, and now that my high office is drawing to a close, I rejoice to feel that the administration of this great University will continue to benefit from your distinguished ability and your fearless courage. I wish you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor and the Calcutta University, all success in the years that are to come and I now declare this Convocation to be closed.

## PRESENTATION OF BUDDHA RELICS TO BURMESE DEPUTATION.

[The ceremony of presenting the relics of the Lord Buddha, found 19th Mar. 1910. some months ago at Peshawar, to the Buddhist deputation from Burma, took place yesterday morning at Government House, and was both interesting and impressive. The function was of a semi-public character, and quite a number of interested spectators gathered in the Throne Room to witness the proceedings.

His Excellency the Viceroy entered the hall accompanied by two A.-D.-C.'s shortly after 12-30, and the deputation came in immediately afterwards, and were introduced by the Hon. Sir Harold Stuart. Prince Pyinmana Mintha, step-son of the late king Mindon, of Mandalay, headed the deputation, the other members of which were Maung Maung Golay, Honorary Magistrate and Municipal Commissioner of Mandalay, and U Pe, trustee of the Aracan Pagoda. They were accompanied by the Hon. Maung Bah Too and Taw Sin Ko, the Burma Government Archæologist.

The scene whilst the presentation was being made was a striking one. His Excellency, who wore a grey frock coat with the Star of India pinned on the breast, stood on the steps of the Throne with his staff on one side, the Lieutenant-Governor of Burma, Sir H. Thirkell White, Sir Harvey Adamson, and Sir Harold Stuart, all in uniform on the other. The deputation made a picturesque group in the centre in white coats and pink *lungis*. Prince Pyinmana and the Hon. Maung Bah Too wore silk turbans in a delicate shade of pink, while the other two members of the deputation wore no head-dress beyond a strip of white ribbon tied round the hair, which was done up in a top-knot. Taw Sin Ko wore a flowered robe in deep colours, which contrasted sharply with the white and pink worn by the deputation.

The ceremony was very brief and all remained standing throughout. After the deputation had been introduced to the Viceroy, Mr. Marshall, Archæologist to the Government of India, read a brief account of the discovery of the relics.

### THE DISCOVERY OF THE RELICS.

Mr. Marshall gave an account of the relics. He took his distinguished audience back to the times of Chinese travellers who came on pilgrimages to India between the 4th and 17th centuries of the Christian era. Three of these travellers—Fo Hien, Sun Yun and Hieun Tsang—told of a Pagoda or stupa which had been built near the city of Peshawar by the great Emperor Kanishka, and in which, as

*Presentation of Buddha Relics to Burmese Deputation.*

Hieun Tsang explicitly states, part of the relics of the Lord Buddha had been enshrined. They described this pagoda as one of singular beauty and majesty, adorned with precious substances and unequalled in point of size or grandeur by any monument of its kind in India. Its circumference was nearly a quarter of a mile and its height was variously estimated by them from four to seven hundred feet. It possessed no fewer than thirteen stories, the base being of stone and the superstructure of wood : while the whole was crowned with a pinnacle of gilded discs attached to an iron pillar. So much about this magnificent structure is learnt from the Chinese pilgrims, and Mr. Marshall inferred from an inscription of the tenth century that it survived the last of the pilgrims for at least three hundred years. What happened to it after that history does not relate, but along with many other monuments of Buddhism it is believed to have been desecrated and thrown down by the marauding hosts of Mahmud of Ghazni. Whether that was its fate or not it finds no mention whatever in any later record and with the decay of Buddhism on the frontier its very site appears to have been forgotten. Fortunately, however, some definite indications as to its position were given by the Chinese pilgrim and these proved sufficient to enable the French savant, M. Foucher, to locate the spot in some mounds a little to the east of the modern Peshawar City.

**EXCAVATING THE SITE.**

Following his identification the Archæological Department decided to explore this site and to discover what remains of the great edifice might still be hidden beneath the soil. The work was begun rather more than two years ago by Dr. Spooner, but for several months it looked as if nothing was to be found except confused heaps of debris. Then little by little there emerged from these heaps the stone plinth of this gigantic pagoda which is undoubtedly the largest of its kind known to existence in India and which in other respects also agrees with the descriptions of Kanishka's memorial given by the Chinese pilgrims. Indeed that this was the identical building constructed by that monarch there could not be a shadow of a doubt, and as soon as Mr. Marshall saw it he pressed on Dr. Spooner the importance of setting to work at once and of searching for the relics of Buddha which were said to be deposited within it. Accordingly a shaft was sunk in the centre of the basement and was carried down with much labour through its heavy stone foundation until at last, at a depth of some twenty feet below the surface, expectations were realised by discovering a small stone chamber and in it the relic casket standing where it had been placed nearly two thousand years ago. If any

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evidence had previously been wanting to prove that this pagoda was the one erected by the Emperor Kanishka, it was amply supplied by the finds which now came to light. On the relic casket itself is the figure of a King identical with the effigies of Kanishka which appear on his coins, and the name which is written in Kharoshti alongside this figure seems to be that of Kanishka. Moreover a coin of the Emperor was found close by which alone would have been enough to indicate the date of the deposit. Thus Hiuen Tshang's statement that this pagoda was erected by the Emperor Kanishka was proved to be perfectly correct and there is no reason to doubt his assertion that the relics in it were those of Buddha. Kanishka's empire extended over most of Northern India and Afghanistan and it was quite an easy matter for the Emperor to obtain well authenticated relics of the Buddha from one or other of the celebrated pagodas containing them which existed within the confines of his dominions. For these reasons, Mr. Marshall added, it seemed that the testimony of Hiuen Tshang might be accepted without hesitation and that with him we must regard these relics as those of the great teacher, which were first divided into eight portions after the Parinirvana and afterwards sub-divided by the Emperor Ashoka.

His Excellency the Viceroy addressed the deputation as follows:—]

*Gentlemen*,—I have great pleasure in receiving this Deputation of distinguished members of the Burma Buddhist community at the capital of the Indian Empire. I have invited you to Calcutta in order to present to you the sacred relics of Buddha which have recently been discovered near Peshawar. Mr. Marshall has told you the interesting story of how Dr. Spooner found them. India owes much to Mr. Marshall for his able administration of the Archæological Department, and Dr. Spooner's success in bringing to light the beautiful little casket which had been lying buried for so many centuries is an achievement of which he may well be proud. The Government of India have carefully considered to what final resting place the relics should be consigned, and have decided that they must certainly remain within the confines of the Indian Empire, and that Burma as a Buddhist Province, and Mandalay as the acknowledged Burmese capital of that Province, should be invited to

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provide for their safe custody. I am sure that the great honour done to Burma will be thoroughly appreciated by its people, and that these relics will be carefully preserved and cherished by them. I trust too that a suitable shrine may be erected at Mandalay for their reception, where in future years devout pilgrims may gather from all parts of the world to do honour to the memory of the great founder of their religion.

[His Excellency then descended to the gilded table on which the relics had been placed on a silken cushion, and formally handed over the casket to Prince Pyinmana, who received it on a golden tray. The relics were enclosed in a crystal sheath, which was placed inside a casket of gold made in the shape of the Sanchi stupa. The casket was set with precious stones, and on it was an inscription stating when, where, and how the relics were discovered.

Prince Pyinmana said : " Your Excellency,—On behalf of the Buddhists of Burma I beg to thank Your Excellency and the Government of India for permitting the enshrining of Buddha's relics at Mandalay there to be worshipped by the Buddhists of the Indian Empire. Burma is an integral part of India, and we in Burma are proud to belong to the Indian Empire, from which our religion, letters and civilization are derived. As Burma is the only Buddhist province of India it is fitting that the relics should rest there. In quickening our religion, they will stimulate our national advancement, which has made such marked progress under British Rule."

This concluded the ceremony. Subsequently the Viceroy and Lady Minto chatted with the Deputation for some time. The relics were taken charge of after the ceremony by Inspector Hansen of Government House.

Amongst those present were Lady Minto, Prince Antoine D'Orleans, the Hon. Mr. Gates, of the Burma Commission, Sir Lawrence and Lady Jenkins, Mr. Justice Harington, Mr. Justice Brett, Mr. Justice Holmwood, all the members of Council, and a number of other ladies and gentlemen.]

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BUDGET DEBATE, 1910-11.

[The Annual Budget Debate was commenced on the 29th instant<sup>29th and 30th</sup> and concluded on the 30th idem.<sup>Mar. 1910.</sup>

This was the first Debate since the inauguration of the Reformed Councils and much interest attached to the occasion. Photographs of the full Council were taken. Most members spoke, but speakers, with the exception of members in charge, were limited to 20 minutes.

The Budget showed fresh taxation and the increased duty on tobacco met with much opposition.

This meeting, the first Budget Debate under the new Act, was also the last meeting of the Council Lord Minto would attend in Calcutta as Viceroy, as His Excellency's term of office would expire in the coming November.

In closing the Debate His Excellency addressed the Council as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—In accordance with our new system of procedure the discussion of the Budget has been so full and detailed, that I propose to confine myself to a few very general remarks on the financial position.

In his opening speech the Hon'ble Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson explained to us the financial story of the past years,—his view of future demands upon our revenue, and the means by which he proposed to meet them. I congratulate my Hon'ble friend on the lucidity of his explanation. Since then the Financial Statement has passed through its various stages, and has to-day been before you as the Budget for the coming financial year.

My Hon'ble friend invited us to look back into the past, to the time of the Hon'ble Mr. Wilson fifty years ago, to the days of small revenues and equivalent expenditure, but entailing speeches of portentous length,—he told us of the complicated methods of successive Finance Members anxious to explain to inanimate Councils their administration of the vastly growing trade and ever-increasing income of India, till he brought us down to the present day, with our revenue of over 75 millions, our enlarged Councils and their greatly increased opportunities for criticism and discussion



*Budget Debate, 1910-11.*

—and now that we are at the conclusion of this debate my thoughts naturally turn to the story of our finances since I assumed the Viceroyalty in November 1905. It is four years almost to a day since I addressed the first Budget meeting of my Council—and of the advisers who then sat beside me on my Executive Council it is curious to note that none now remain to me. Some after long years of useful work have retired from the service, one distinguished amongst his compeers has gone to his last resting place, and two are ably directing the administration of great Provinces.

In financial, as in other matters, India has passed through a time of strain and anxiety during those four years; but she has, I hope, notwithstanding many ups and downs, emerged successfully from her trials. When I took over the Government, the country was on the crest of a wave of remarkable prosperity. Notwithstanding short rains and the cruel ravages of plague, we had had in 1905-06 a surplus of over 2 millions, and at my first Budget meeting, in March 1906, we were able to announce a large number of special grants, for education, agricultural research, and police reform, as well as to remit a variety of petty cesses on the land at a cost of 82 lakhs of rupees. Yet even these large concessions failed to check the onward march of our revenues, and in the following year, 1906-07, we obtained a surplus of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  millions, and found ourselves in a position to put the crown on a long series of remissions of taxation by reducing the duty on salt to the nominal figure of one rupee per maund. This however brought us to the end of our cycle of good years, and in the autumn of 1907 the outlook became suddenly overcast. The rains failed over the greater part of Northern India, and we had to prepare to avert the misery of a widespread famine—whilst almost simultaneously we found ourselves called upon to face one of those financial upheavals which periodically convulse the great markets of the world. The combination of

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misfortunes bore heavily upon our resources. Our revenue fell off; our trade was dislocated; and a severe drain was imposed on our reserves of gold. In 1907-08 our surplus dropped to little over £ $\frac{1}{4}$  of a million; in the following year, the reaction was at its height and we had to declare a heavy deficit. Thus passed two years of anxiety, of constant watchfulness, and of many enforced economies, but throughout our time of trial we may justly recall with pleasure that our financial machinery worked efficiently, and the credit of India remained unimpaired.

With the year which is now closing, begins the third phase of Indian finance during my term of office. We are entering on a time of recovery. The Hon'ble Finance Member has told us that the new financial year promises to open "under favourable auspices, with good harvests, active markets, expanding trade." He anticipates prosperity in the private and public finances of the country, and given a good monsoon, looks forward to a general improvement in our revenues. My Hon'ble friend is proverbially lucky in his 'gamble in rain' so I hope his prognostications may prove true. But there are obvious difficulties ahead of us. Our opium revenue is menaced. We are committed in some respects,—and Local Governments along with us—to expenditures on a scale which it may not be prudent to maintain and which it may be necessary to revise. We are face to face with new aspirations entailing a heavy outlay on social and industrial progress, the vital necessity for which no one recognises more sincerely than I do, but which cannot be directly or speedily remunerative,—and though we may heartily rejoice over a progress which must entail increased expenditure in many directions, we cannot disregard the consideration of the sources from which that expenditure is to be met. It is a great problem—in it there is much food for thought. And behind it there may lurk many other problems which we cannot now foresee—and whilst sympathising, as I do, with many of the ambitions

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of advancing prosperity, I cannot but feel that the conditions of the present time call for caution, for the husbanding of our resources and the strengthening of our credit to enable us to meet the duties that lie before us.

And notwithstanding the increased taxation to which we have been driven by stress of weather, the skies are beginning to clear now, and to my mind it is no paradox to say that our position is in reality stronger than it was four years ago at the flood tide of our prosperity. I am not unaware of the criticisms which, in the light of more recent events, have been passed upon our financial policy and upon the large remissions of taxation which we were able to give before 1908,—but I do not concur in those criticisms. We have lightened the burdens of the poor; we have raised the general welfare of the people; and we have returned to the tax-payer money that would otherwise have gone towards enhancing our scale of recurring expenditure, and consequently increasing our present difficulties. It is not only the incidence of our taxation, however, that we have improved. We have taken steps to discount the probable loss of our opium revenue. We have proved the necessity for a less ambitious programme of capital expenditure. We have tested the strength of our gold reserves, and have, I hope, disposed of certain weaknesses in our currency system. It is on all these grounds that I consider we may take stock of our financial position with some pride, and may look forward to the future with confidence.

I will only say one word more in reference to the conduct of our finances. Three years ago—at the Budget debate—I referred to the arrangements which had been made with China for assisting her in the gigantic task of putting down the opium habit in her vast territories. I deprecated the doubts that were thrown on the good faith of the Chinese Government, and I refused to accept the assumption that the revenues of India were being sacrificed

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to the views of a few faddists. The three years for which we agreed to co-operate with China as a test of her sincerity, have not yet expired and it would be premature to discuss the results of the experiment. Nevertheless, I think I may justly invite the attention of the Council to the verdict of the International Commission which sat at Shanghai last year and on which India was so ably represented by the Hon'ble Mr. Brunyate. The Commission recorded its recognition of "the unswerving sincerity of the Government of China in their efforts to eradicate the production and consumption of opium throughout the Empire; \* \* \* and the real, though unequal, progress already made in a task which is one of the greatest magnitude." We may welcome the integrity of China's aims, and though our co-operation with her has involved genuine sacrifices, both in British India and in the States of some of my friends, the Ruling Chiefs of Central India, we can distinctly claim that those sacrifices have been made in the interests of humanity alone. There is evidence that China appreciates our help. Whether she succeeds in her share of her compact with us, careful local enquiry alone can show, but if she attains the success which her efforts deserve, India may well be proud of the assistance she has rendered to her great neighbour.

I shall not attempt, Gentlemen, to trace our financial position any further. The many points which have been raised by Resolutions and questions have been dealt with by the Members in charge of the various Departments, but as this is the last Budget debate at which I shall be present, I venture to say a few words on the first session of the new Council which closes to-day. It has been a memorable session. The Council assembled at a moment of great anxiety, and was immediately called upon to support the Government of India in legislation which the conditions of the country had unfortunately rendered inevitable. That support was not only unhesitatingly forthcoming, but the

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reasons for it were discussed with a good sense and appreciation of circumstances which fully confirmed the views I have always advocated, that increased representation of the real interests of India would not weaken, but would greatly strengthen, the hands of the Government. And throughout our debates there has been ample evidence of a deep interest in public affairs and a desire to contribute to the better administration of the country. The Government has benefited by criticism and suggestions, and the dignity of procedure so necessary to an assembly, such as this, has been well recognised by its Members. I am aware that there have been exceptions to the observance of that dignity, and I am glad the Hon'ble Member Mr. Haque drew attention to them, as his doing so is evidence of the jealousy with which Hon'ble Members are prepared to insist upon a strict conformity with the rules of business, but I feel that I may very justly say that the exception to which he specially referred was due merely to a want of acquaintance with those rules and certainly to no intentional discourtesy towards this assembly.

Our machinery is, I admit, not as yet perfect. It will require some alterations, especially in respect to a rearrangement of the work of the session. I fully recognise the inconvenience and waste of time that must have been caused to Members, both official and non-official, by being required to attend meetings of Council on dates scattered over many weeks. I foresee no great difficulty in a rearrangement of work. Bills might be introduced at an early meeting in the autumn which would not necessitate the attendance of Members except those specially interested in them; at a second meeting in the middle of December they might be referred to Select Committees; a short session might be held at the end of January, or beginning of February, to pass them; and the Budget session would be in March. I am only foreshadowing possibilities, with which my successor will have to deal.

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But putting aside questions of administrative machinery and the great political considerations involved in the creation of this enlarged Council, I claim for it one happy result. It has brought people together—official and non-official Members have met each other. The official wall which of necessity to some extent had separated them has been broken down—they have talked over many things together. Non-official Members from a distance have, not only in our debates but in private conversation, had opportunities of explaining their grievances. Much healthy fresh air has entered this old Council Chamber, and speaking on behalf of my colleagues as well as myself, it has been very welcome to us. And now, Gentlemen, as this is the last time that I shall preside over a full Council, I would ask you to bear in mind that for some time to come there must be much that is experimental in our recent reforms—it rests upon you to consolidate the work which has been done—to prove yourselves worthy of the interests which you represent, to safeguard the moderation and good sense of the Council of which you are Members. It is to you that the Executive Government will look for the expressions of unofficial opinion, it is on your loyal support that they should be able to rely.

I am grateful for the appreciative words in which Hon'ble Members have alluded to my services. I hope that the labours of my colleagues and myself will bear good fruit. I know this Council to be very capable of upholding the great responsibilities entrusted to it, and I shall leave this country in the firm belief that it is destined to play a distinguished part in the future history of India.

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### ADDRESS BY THE STUDENTS OF THE PAIWAR SCHOOL.

12th April 1910.

[During the Viceroy's visit to the Kurram an address was presented to His Excellency by the students of the Paiwar School, the translation of which is as follows :—

Welcome, O King of India !

May your fortune, throne and country ever remain safe. Come with happiness, remain with happiness and go with happiness. This is our constant prayer to God.

Remain happy, O English nation, remain happy. With prosperity, justice and perfection.

Welcome, our Lord !

Your Excellency's advent in our poor country is a source of prosperity, happiness and pride to us poor subjects. We are fortunate to have an opportunity of seeing in our midst the King of our country, and fortunate are the people who live in peace under the shadow of the Union Jack of the Emperor of India. The peace and prosperity that we are fortunate to enjoy at present never fell to the lot of our ancestors in any age, and the education and moral training that our young generation is receiving in the schools were never dreamt of by our forefathers. We the students have read it in the geography of the world that the sun never sets on the British Empire. There is no doubt in this ; but the day is coming when the British nation will become master of the whole world, since it is more just and a greater cherisher of its subjects than any other nation.

We are very fortunate that when our country first came under the shadow of the British Government, our first Governor was the Hon'ble Mr. Merle, a lover of Science, a good administrator and one who knew the people and was well acquainted with the habits of the Afghans. He at once established primary schools in our country for our education, moral training and civilization. We trust that our Exalted Government will also make a provision for our higher education. May God ever maintain the shadow of the British nation and Empire over our heads and may our lives be sacrificed in loyally serving the British Government. Amen ! Amen ! Amen !

His Excellency made no reply.]

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ALL-INDIA MEMORIAL TO HIS LATE MAJESTY  
KING EDWARD VII.

[In connection with the proposal to erect an All-India Memorial to 30th July 1910. the late King-Emperor, His Excellency the Viceroy held a meeting of the General Committee on Saturday the 30th July at Viceregal Lodge.

About 15 members attended, including His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Raja of Nabha.

In explaining the objects and scope of the proposal, His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

*Your Excellency and Gentlemen*,—I have summoned this meeting in order to place before you certain proposals for a memorial to our late King-Emperor.

I have felt that a memorial would be in accordance with the wishes of every community in India, and that those wishes would best be met by an All-India Memorial, to which everyone in the land, high and low, might have an opportunity of subscribing, and of sharing in accordance with his individual means in doing honour to the memory of a great King whose benign rule and sympathetic care for the welfare of his subjects had so well earned their devotion and loyalty throughout the Empire.

The form the memorial should assume has been carefully discussed, and though I fully recognise the strong arguments which have occasionally been advanced in favour of some great work of public benefactions which might commemorate the great reign of Edward VII to future generations, I have found so much diversity of opinion, local opinion, and that of various benevolent interests, that it seemed to me impossible to decide upon a public memorial which would on such lines satisfy the diversity of views I know to exist. It seemed to be much better therefore that the inauguration of memorials, which aimed at some great public work, such as Institutions, Hospitals, or Museums, should be undertaken locally, under conditions where local interests and local wants were understood, and with that idea I have



*All-India Memorial to His Majesty King Edward VII.*

encouraged the inauguration of Provincial Memorials inaugurated by local authorities and communities.

I hope they will be kept entirely distinct from the All-India Memorial, the object of which, as I have said, is that subscriptions may be within reach of every individual in India and that the amount of subscriptions should be limited so as to distribute them as far as possible throughout the whole community. With this view individual subscription will be limited to ₹5,000, and the smallest will be acceptable—whilst the sum total of contributions will be limited to five lakhs.

I may as well say now that some local authorities have proposed to me that a certain percentage of their receipts to Local Memorials should be given to the All-India Memorial. But this is in my opinion contrary to the spirit in which I hope subscriptions for the All-India Memorial will be raised—they should, I feel, be entirely distinct from all local efforts.

Now as to the memorial itself—I have consulted the King-Emperor, and His Majesty has graciously agreed that the object we have in view would be best met by an equestrian statue of King Edward VII at Delhi, a city that is not only central but will be for ever associated with many glorious incidents in the history of India. The actual site will have to be determined by the Executive Committee I propose to name to you to-day, but I may say that the position for the statue which would seem to me the best is the open space between the Jumma Musjid and the Fort. The probable price of a marble statue would, I believe, be about 4,000 guineas, and with a total subscription of 5 lakhs there would be available a very considerable margin for the laying out of gardens and their upkeep as part of the surroundings of the memorial.

The selection of the sculptor and the laying out of such grounds will require to be dealt with by the Executive Committee.

*Seditious Meetings Act Continuation Bill.*

I have been asked as to the duties of Vice-Patrons and Members of the General Committee. These will, I hope, be to make known the views I have endeavoured to express to-day and to encourage the transmission of subscriptions.

I am glad to say that subscriptions have already been promised from the Nizam of Hyderabad and the Maharajas of Kashmir, Mysore and Jodhpore amounting to ₹20,000, and that Mr. Ker has in this meeting generously contributed ₹1,000.

As to the Executive Committee, I would propose the following names :—

The Hon'ble Mr. Carlyle.  
Do. Mr. Robertson.  
Mr. Justice Mookerji.  
The Hon'ble Mr. C. W. N. Graham.  
The Commissioner of Delhi.  
The Foreign Secretary.  
Public Works Secretary.  
Private Secretary to the Viceroy.  
The Hon'ble Mr. Ker, *Treasurer*.  
Captain Mackenzie, *Secretary*.

Mr. Ker has kindly consented to act as Treasurer and to receive any subscriptions which should be paid through the Alliance Bank or the Bank of Bengal.

SEDITIONOUS MEETINGS ACT CONTINUATION BILL.

[At a meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council held at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, on the 6th August, the above Bill was taken into consideration. The measure was strongly opposed by a number of non-official members who spoke at some length. It was, however, passed into law by a majority, and His Excellency the Viceroy in closing the discussion spoke as follows :—]

I will only add a very few remarks to what the Hon'ble Mr. Jenkins has said to this meeting of Council and on the matter which he has so very ably put before you. I am sorry to say we cannot, none of us can, disregard the existence of a revolutionary party. No one has welcomed with

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*Seditious Meetings Act Continuation Bill.*

greater pleasure than I have the remarks which have universally fallen from unofficial members of this Council to-day, to the effect that the state of the country is infinitely better than it was and that things are improving politically. The views expressed, as they have been by the opponents of the Act, I know to be thoroughly sound and true, and they have been very welcome words to listen to. But, Gentlemen, I cannot help telling you that to myself there is a personal factor in our proceedings to-day which I cannot disregard. I feel that I am at the end of my administration, and I do not think it would be right either by the repeal of the Seditious Meetings Act or by its re-enactment in perpetuity to commit my successor to a policy of which he had not had sufficient opportunity of judging, and of which he might not approve. I feel very strongly that this Act is one of such enormous importance that it cannot be fittingly considered during a Simla session. The unofficial members who opposed the Act have done so perfectly legitimately and have expressed their views perfectly straightforwardly and very much to the point. I do not say that I agree with all of them, but they have spoken their views fearlessly and I think generally with sound common sense, but I believe they will agree with me that in a very important piece of legislation such as this is, it would not be satisfactory for the country, it would not be satisfactory for India, that we should embark upon a very decided line of policy at Simla, and that our action can only be put in effect legitimately in full Council in Calcutta, where every detail of necessary legislation will be fully considered and where we may rest assured that it will be considered carefully and with an ample knowledge of the state of the country. I do not attempt to foreshadow what that legislation may be, but I am perfectly convinced and I am sure we may all feel satisfied that the Act will receive at Calcutta that consideration which it deserves, and that my successor will be guided by the opinions he forms of the state of India.

## FAREWELL DINNER AT SIMLA BY UNITED SERVICE CLUB.

[The United Service Club, Simla, entertained the Viceroy at a 14th Oct. 1910 farewell dinner on Friday night. These farewell entertainments of the Simla Club are looked forward to with great interest as the departing guest can then review his career in India and indicate the subjects which have occupied his attention with greater freedom than is possible at purely official gatherings. On the present occasion His Excellency dealt with all the principal events which have occurred during the five years of his Viceroyalty. General Drummond, Inspector General of Imperial Service Troops, presided in the absence of General Sir Douglas Haig, President of the Club, and about 140 members were present, including the Lieutenant-Governor and Sir Henry MacMahon and practically all other leading civil and military officers in Simla. His Excellency was met at the door by the General Committee of the Club and led upstairs where he was presented to the assembled members. The dinner was excellently managed and was a brilliant success. Plain dress with orders and decorations was worn by all present. On the toast of his health being proposed by General Drummond, the members sang "For he's a jolly good fellow." Lord Minto's speech was exceedingly well delivered and loudly cheered. On the final departure of His Excellency, the whole company joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne."

General Drummond said :—

*Gentlemen*,—In the absence of the President of the Club, Sir Douglas Haig, I have been asked to preside at this dinner and I now have the honour to propose the toast of our distinguished guest, His Excellency the Viceroy.

May I be permitted to remind you, Gentlemen, that Lord Minto was in Simla many years ago—in the seventies—before the Afghan War and that in entertaining His Excellency we are doing honour both to our Viceroy and to one of the oldest inhabitants of Simla. I would also refer to the fact that His Excellency is the only Viceroy who has dined at the Club as a private member, an honour which we all greatly appreciate.

Even in those distant days to which I have alluded, Lord Minto had begun to make his career famous. Already well known as a brilliant horseman, he had earned his spurs in the field with the Turkish Army in 1877. He then saw fighting in the Afghan War in 1878 and 1879. In 1881 he served with Lord Roberts at the Cape; then came more fighting in Egypt in 1882, and, in 1885, fighting again in Canada. Later from 1898 to 1904 he rendered eminent

*Farewell Dinner at Simla by United Services Club.*

services to the Empire as Governor General of the great Dominion of Canada, and from 1905 to 1910 he has been Viceroy of India. Gentlemen, truly a splendid career.

But think of the great changes which have taken place since Lord Minto first landed in this country. When he arrived as Viceroy in 1905, he found that with the spread of education, with progress in every direction, and with ever-increasing facilities for travel, the inevitable time had arrived when His Majesty's Indian subjects would aspire to a greater share in the government of the country, and he realized that a change in the system of administration had thus become a matter of urgent necessity.

But the modification of a long-established system involved the solution of many grave and difficult problems, and I venture to say that no Viceroy, on taking up the reins of government, has ever been faced with questions so difficult, or with burdens of responsibility so heavy as those which His Excellency has been called upon to meet.

How Lord Minto rose to the occasion is well known to us all. His patience, his tact, his courage, his absolute fearlessness when in personal danger and his sympathy with all legitimate aspirations, have won him widespread admiration, and we earnestly hope that slow as the results of the new policy may be in declaring themselves His Excellency may long be spared to see the fullest success crown those liberal measures of reform which he initiated, and with which his name will ever be associated.

It is not only by ourselves that His Excellency's departure will be regretted but by all classes of His Majesty's loyal subjects in India. Lord Minto has no firmer friends than the great Indian Princes. Ever mindful of their best interests, and with a chivalrous regard for their cherished traditions, he has drawn us still closer to those ties which have hitherto so happily existed between the great States of India and the British Crown.

And so also will all classes deplore the departure of Her Excellency. Lady Minto will be ever remembered for her unremitting labours on behalf of the women of India. Her Nursing Association will live long and flourish as a permanent tribute to her memory. It will be a sad day for Simla when it loses her charming personality; but she may rest assured that she will always be held in the esteem and affection of all those who have been privileged to enjoy her generous and kindly friendship and her generous hospitality.

And Gentlemen, while Lord Minto has nobly upheld the traditions of the House of Elliot as a great successor to his distinguished great-grandfather, he has been ably supported by Her Excellency and by his charming and accomplished daughters. Can we ever forget the

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lead they have given us in sport, or the triumphs of Lady Eileen at Annandale, at Calcutta and in the jungles, to say nothing of her brilliant performances on the Amateur stage?

It will indeed be a sorrowful day for us when we bid farewell to Their Excellencies and to Lady Eileen. We wish them a safe and restful journey home, and we sincerely hope that they may have a happy meeting in the old country with Lady Errington, with Lady Charles Fitzmaurice and with the rest of their family.

Gentlemen, I give you the toast of a high-minded and chivalrous nobleman, His Excellency the Viceroy.

His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

*General Drummond and Gentlemen*,—I am quite incapable of expressing to you my appreciation of the reception you have given to the toast of my health. I warmly recognise the honour you have paid me in inviting me to the banquet of to-night. It is very welcome to me to see an old friend in the chair,—an old friend who has reminded me of happy times at Simla in years gone by—who has spoken far too kindly of my past career—and has brought many memories back to me of old soldiering days which I only wish were to come over again. I must thank him too for all he has said of Lady Minto and my daughters—Lady Minto has been deeply interested in the welfare of India. I owe very much to her untiring energy and constant assistance, and I know how earnestly she hopes for the success of those institutions she has done her best to encourage. I assure you, Gentlemen, we shall all of us say good-bye to India and our many friends with a very bitter pang. But, Gentlemen, I feel above all that I am surrounded this evening by those to whose loyal support I have owed so much during the last five years.

Time flies by so quickly in India—every moment is so full—days merge into weeks and weeks merge into months so imperceptibly—that we lose count of the years till it suddenly dawns upon us that our official race is almost run. And the Viceroy has so constantly to face the present, and so often to speculate as to the future, that he has

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no time to look behind him at the history he has helped to make till the time of his departure draws nigh. His daily life is of necessity a constant strain. Reports from the outposts of the Empire, reports of frontier raids with their stories so often little known of the heroism of frontier officers, correspondence with the heads of Local Administrations and with the great Ruling Chiefs of India, information as to political ambitions and warnings as to seditious machinations, schemes for the development of railways and irrigation, the improvement of agriculture, the extension of education, assistance to commerce and industry, increasing facilities for postal and telegraphic communication, military efficiency, together with the betterment of the lot of our splendid Army, British and Indian, the encouragement of thrift, and all that goes to ameliorate the position of the teeming millions of this country—are only additions to the routine administration of the Government of India.

But, Gentlemen, I am very far from wishing to emphasize the individual work of the Viceroy. The official life of every public servant in India is a time of toil and responsibility. I do not believe that the people at home realise the amount of work or the self-sacrificing devotion demanded from their fellow-countrymen in India—services rendered in a distant land, in a climate trying to European constitutions, often entailing separations from much that is dear to men and women, services for which the rewards of appointment to high office are few and can be but sparsely bestowed, but to which the men, who have borne the burden and heat of the day, should, in my opinion, have the first claim.

Gentlemen, here in Simla, we are in an environment of “files”—the constant companions who never leave me, who brandish a blue label in my face in the small hours of the morning and congregate to receive me in my tent after a hard day's shooting. It may be ungrateful of me not

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to reciprocate their affection. I have known men so wedded to their society that they could not do without them. I am fully prepared to treat them with all due respect, but personally I have much sympathy with the views of a departmental clerk whose case was once brought up to me by a certain Secretary to Government. I forget just now whether it was a case for promotion or dismissal—it was some years ago. But the Secretary looked serious and hinted that there were some doubts as to the poor man's sanity, for he had been into his office and found him kneeling before a table upon which were a mountain of those ponderous bundles we know so well, with their blue, red and green decorations. His hands were raised to heaven and in a voice of earnest supplication he was crying aloud—"Oh Lord, deliver me from these files!" "Well," I said, "he certainly is not mad!"—I only hope his prayers were granted.

But, Gentlemen, we all know well enough that the files merely embody the details of our everyday work. We shall be judged by the value of it as a whole. And it is no waste of time to look back occasionally and to take stock of its results.

It is nearly five years since I landed at Bombay. In the ordinary sense of the expression I was new to India. And yet perhaps not so new to her as some of my predecessors. I had been brought up in the midst of Indian traditions. On both sides of my house I was descended from ancestors who have been distinguished as rulers and soldiers here. I had read much of Indian history and had been fascinated by the stories of its invading hosts, the rule of its great Emperors and the romantic tales of European adventurers, and I had seen service in Afghanistan and had made life-long friendship with frontier officers. Fully recognising the heavy responsibilities of the great office to which I had been appointed, I confess that I looked forward to the future with hope and pride.



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I assumed the reins of Government under conditions that seemed to me peculiarly favourable. Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales were already in India and were carrying out that memorable tour which has so impressed the personality of the King-Emperor upon his subjects, has assured them of his personal interest in their welfare, and has confirmed their loyal devotion to the Throne. Moreover, I felt that I was succeeding a statesman who had bequeathed to me an administrative machinery, the efficiency of which he had continuously laboured to perfect.

Much has happened since those days. The sky did not fulfil its promise of fine weather. It has often been difficult to penetrate the mists that have gathered round us. The clouds have been heavy and threatening. We have heard the mutterings of a storm.

But putting aside for a moment the abnormal anxieties that have weighed upon us, I hope I am entitled to say that the Government of India has during my term of office continued faithfully to discharge its daily work for the benefit of the people committed to its charge and the maintenance of peace upon our borders. Our frontiers have, on the whole, continued quiet. We had two small military expeditions, the rapid organisation of which and the completeness with which their object was obtained, reflect much credit, not only upon the troops and the distinguished General who commanded them, but also upon the military administration which has done so much to further the preparation of our Indian Army for war. And we have had to deal with a succession of raids into British territory—led by outlaws—some of them carried out in considerable strength and with great daring,—to cope with which in the future we are carefully overhauling our system of frontier protection. But so far our difficulties have not in my opinion exceeded what we are bound to expect in accordance with our policy of non-interference with the

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warlike tribesmen of the hills. The personal influence of our frontier officers has done much to foster mutual understanding with the tribes, and our relations with them have become generally more friendly than in years gone by.

Moreover, the visit of His Majesty the Amir of Afghanistan in the spring of 1907, the cordial relations he established with the Government of India, and, I trust I may say too, the personal friendship I share with him will, I hope, tend still further to ensure the success of our efforts to preserve the quiet of our mutual frontiers.

But, Gentlemen, the borderland is a tinder-box which the merest spark may ignite. Many of you here to-night know those wild hills by heart and admire the fierce bravery of their people—and you know too how impossible it is—at any time—to guarantee that these will continue to keep the peace. And we have had anxieties elsewhere. On our North-Eastern borders we have been called upon to face new conditions and have had to consider questions affecting frontier States who look to us for protection. I hope that so far the Foreign Department of the Government of India has proved itself a good “warden of the marches,” and as head of that Department I cannot say how much I owe to the assistance of its able Secretary.

In the internal affairs of India, too, we have had our troubles—plague, malaria, famine,—we have done our best to combat them, and I hope that the advance of science and the devoted labours of the expert officers to whom India already owes so much will ensure an ever-increasing knowledge of the best means of alleviating the miseries which from time to time afflict her people. And, Gentlemen, notwithstanding the difficulties we have had to face, which after all have been those with which our predecessors have so often been confronted, I trust that we have been able to keep pace with the growing demands of the country and to inaugurate not a little useful legislation.

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I have merely endeavoured, Gentlemen, to sketch what I may call the normal history of my administration—*pari passu* with that history there has been another story to tell of times that have been anything but normal. We have passed through five eventful years. Ever since I landed at Bombay, the political state of India has been foremost in my thoughts. In those early days I could not but realise, all too soon, that the political atmosphere was heavy and electric. I felt it. My Colleagues felt it. I believe everyone who thought at all felt it. And as my knowledge of the state of public affairs increased, I became more and more aware of a sullen and widespread dissatisfaction and discontent—a dissatisfaction shared by many loyal subjects of the Throne. There was widespread political unrest, quite apart from revolutionary sedition. Some great change was evidently affecting the conditions which British administrators had hitherto so successfully directed and controlled. Influences were at work to which the Government of India could not shut its eyes. Ambitions had come into existence, the justice of which we could not deny. The central machinery of the Raj, magnificently as it had worked, was apparently no longer up to date. And what did these ambitions aim at? Please remember, Gentlemen, I am only talking now of what I will call “loyal unrest.” Briefly, and speaking quite generally, I believe those ambitions merely embodied the hopes of many thoughtful Indians that a greater share in the government of India should be open to their countrymen. Those hopes were based largely on Queen Victoria’s Proclamation of 1858. But what were the causes which had so accentuated the existence of those hopes? I have so often spoken as to this that I must ask you to forgive repetition. They were due, to the best of my belief, to the ripening of the educational seed which British rule has systematically sown,—accelerated by the deep impression produced throughout Asia by the successes of an Eastern military power. The seed was at any rate

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bound to ripen some day—we were bound some day to reap the results of what we had sown—and to me it has seemed that our recognition of those results has not come a moment too soon, and that it has saved India from many troubles. What I would wish to impress upon you is—that the factor—the grave and novel factor—which the Government of India had to deal with when I came to India was the development of the ambitions to which I have referred. There have always been undercurrents in India hostile to British rule emanating often from traditional religious beliefs, and superstitions, from which political agitators have attempted to profit. But the problem with which the Government of India was confronted in 1906 was something much more genuine, and therefore much more serious. It was the assertion of a political awakening. There were two ways of dealing with it. It was open to the Government of India to say we will not listen to these new ideas—they are opposed to the stability of British rule or, to recognise the justice of them as the product of years of British administration, and adaptation of British political thought. We had come to the parting of the ways—and to my mind there has never been a shadow of a doubt as to which was the right road to follow. It was perfectly open to us either to refuse to recognise the signs of the times, or to recognise them and attempt to deal with new conditions. I can only say, Gentlemen, that, if we had adopted the former course, we should have gone back upon all that we have said and done in the past, and alienated from the cause of British administration many who had been brought up in its doctrines and built up hopes upon a belief in its justice. We should have driven them into the camp of the enemy—to become the traducers of British rule. We should have perpetuated a discontented India. Holding these views, we decided that the time had come for a further extension of representative principles in our administration. That

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decision was arrived at by the Government of India after mature consideration, and was warmly accepted by Lord Morley to whom we owe much for the eloquent and powerful support he gave us at a critical time.

I am anxious, Gentlemen, to impress the nature of our decision upon you. It was in response to no seditious menace. It was no pandering to the threats of rebellion. It was the mere acknowledgment of what we believed to be just claims. We had to look below the surface and beyond the incidents and accidents of the hour, in order to direct into fruitful channels currents of thought and feeling which govern, often half consciously, the attitude of numbers of men.

But, Gentlemen, in the spring of 1908, the Mozufferpore murders sent a thrill of horror through all loyal India, and the Maniktollah Garden discoveries gave warning of the ramifications of an anarchical plot aiming, by means of assassination and outrage, at the destruction of British rule—a plot which it became the first duty of the Government of India, as custodians of the public safety, to annihilate, with all the weapons at its disposal—and, if those weapons were insufficient, to forge others specially adapted to meet subterranean machinations. Our so-called repressive legislation was our reply to incipient anarchy.

What was the Government of India to do? Was it on the strength of the Maniktollah discoveries, and the crimes which have followed in their wake, to withdraw recognition it had vouchsafed to the justice of political claims two years earlier? Were those claims to be bracketted with the methods of outrage, dacoity, and assassination? I cannot attempt to say to what extent the refusal to reply to reasonable political hopes might have driven those who would otherwise have been loyal to sympathise with active rebellion. To me it has always been of vital importance to avoid the possibility of such a catastrophe. I have consistently refused to allow the whole of India to

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be branded as disloyal in deference to personal intimidation, for that is really what it has amounted to, by anarchical conspirators.

But the position had become complex. The Government of India had to play a double part—with one hand to dispense measures calculated to meet novel political conditions—with the other hand sternly to eradicate political crimes. In the midst of such complications I could not enter-light-heartedly on a policy of reform, but I refused to lose faith in it. How we have played our part I leave it to posterity to judge, when the passions of the hour have subsided and the incidents of the story have assumed their true proportions.

I need not conceal from you, Gentlemen, how great has been the strain of the last two years.

And the public, especially the public at home, not fully acquainted with Indian difficulties, has perhaps not unnaturally been unable to distinguish between the utterly different problems and risks that have confronted us. The necessity for dealing with reasonable hopes has been lost sight of, whilst every outrage that has occurred has been taken as indicative of the general state of India. And throughout its time of trouble every action of the Government has been subjected to microscopic examination, to a running fire of newspaper criticism, to questions in Parliament, to the advice of travellers, who have returned home to write books on India after a few weeks' sojourn in the country,—whilst sensational "head lines" have helped to fan the imaginations of the man in the street,—who in his turn has cried out for "strong measures," regardless of the meaning of his words, and for a "strong man" to enforce them. Gentlemen, I have heard a good deal of "strong men" in my time—and I can only say that my experience in all our anxious days in India has taught me that the strongest man is he who is not afraid of being called weak.

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I have often wondered,—I have no doubt many of you here to-night have wondered—whether the centralised political machinery of Great Britain, subject as it is to many influences, surrounded as it is too by the danger due to false impressions which the marvellous increase in all means of communication has so much favoured, could, in a case of really dangerous emergency, do anything but hamper the hands of those entrusted with the preservation of the distant territories of a mighty Empire.

Such has been the state of affairs the Government of India has had to face. Our answer to the problem submitted to us has been the enlarged Councils, Imperial and Provincial, together with such legislation as has seemed to us imperatively necessary to restrain the culture of sedition. You know the composition of the Councils as well as I do—there is no necessity for me to explain it. I would wish, however, to remind you that my object, when Sir A. Arundel's Committee first took up the consideration of a scheme of reform, was not only to ensure a larger representation of interests and communities, but to attract to a share in Indian administration those who had a solid stake in the welfare of India. I was convinced that the addition of such material to our Councils would not only broaden the basis of our administration, but that in doing so it would strengthen the hands of the Government of India. I believe that it has helped immensely to do so.

And, Gentlemen, outside our Councils stand the Ruling Chiefs of India administering their own wide possessions, yet sharing with the Raj the responsibility for the maintenance of the welfare and the glories of their country. I looked to them, too, for that advice which their intimate knowledge of their people so well entitled them to give,—and the cordiality of their loyal response has still further added to the solidarity of those great interests whose assistance I have been so anxious to secure.

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But in addition to the enlargement of the Legislative Councils, there has been a change in the composition of the Executive Government of India, which, though it required no legislation, is in its acceptance of a principle fraught with the weightiest meaning in respect to the future of British administration,—I allude to the appointment by the Secretary of State of an Indian to a seat on the Viceroy's Council. It was the literal fulfilment of hopes held out in Queen Victoria's Proclamation—but nevertheless its advisability has been much debated, and as I had not a little to do with the careful consideration it involved, it may not be out of place for me to elucidate one point in connection with it as to which I have held strong views. Whilst fully recognising the necessity for the representation of diverse Indian communities and interests on the Legislative Councils, I have always argued that appointment to the Viceroy's Council should be made only on grounds of efficiency in addition to general qualifications for high office. The Viceroy's Council constitutes the Supreme Government of India, and I cannot but foresee difficulties if, in attempting to recognise racial claims, the necessary qualifications of an Indian Member should be disregarded. But given such qualifications I have maintained that race should be no bar to the appointment.

Mr. Sinha is the first Indian Colleague of the Viceroy—it is quite unnecessary for me to remind you of the great position his distinguished and exceptional abilities had obtained for him at the Calcutta bar—and, Gentlemen, I cannot let this opportunity pass without bearing testimony to the able assistance he has rendered to the Government of India—and thanking him for the absolute fairness and broad-minded patriotism which has always characterised the advice I have so often sought from him.

The first sessions of the new Councils have been characterised by moderation of tone in their debates and the good sense of their Members. The official and unofficial



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world have, in their discussion of public business, been brought into much closer contact than heretofore. The policy of the Government of India on public affairs has been freely discussed, and the reasons for it have been rendered much more available to the outside world.

But the reforms have done much more than this. They have immensely cleared the air. They have helped to define the true intentions of different political factors. Moderate political thought has throughout India rallied to their support, the representatives of extreme views have been located in their own camp, the machinations of anarchy have been disclosed, a line has been distinctly drawn between the supporters of political change and the instigators of political outrage. The Government of India, the leaders of Indian thought and the Indian public can now judge much more correctly of surrounding conditions. The depressing suspicion and apprehensions of mysterious influences have largely disappeared. A happier feeling is abroad.

I am far from saying, Gentlemen, that sedition has disappeared, or that we have seen the last of political crime. It would be culpable to disregard the information at our disposal. But I absolutely deny that, should further outrages occur, they can be taken as symbolical of the general political state of India, or that they can justly be assumed to cast a slur upon the loyalty of its people.

I have been criticised as over-sanguine for asserting the improvement in the state of affairs in the face of disclosures of plots and criminal prosecutions. I reply that those who persist in basing their criticisms on such material have never grasped the portentous meaning of the anxieties the Government of India has had to face during the last few years, and totally misjudge the position at present existing in this country.

I hope you will forgive me, Gentlemen, for having dwelt, at unpardonable length, on the story of "the reforms," on

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the condition of affairs that led up to them, and the difficulties which have surrounded their accomplishment—for they have been the great work of the Government of India during my administration. Though they have been accelerated by exceptional circumstances, they are the necessary response to the evolution of political thought fostered under the tuition of British administrators—and though I readily admit that the true value of their results can only be tested as years go on, the Government of India can unhesitatingly assert that their inauguration has gone far to remove the unrest which had shaken public confidence throughout India.

The mists which have blinded us are lifting, and the sun has commenced to shine again.

The battle the Government of India have fought has to the best of my belief been won. If it is fought again by a future generation in accordance with a still further advance in political thought, it will, I hope, be under conditions less involved than those with which we have had to deal.

Great problems there must always be in the administration of our vast Indian Empire with its multifarious nationalities, religions and castes—but, if I may venture to prophesy, the political agitations we have had to deal with will make way, under the more favourable conditions we have inaugurated, for discussion of the great question affecting economical and industrial development and the direction of educational policy upon which the welfare of the people of India so vitally depends.

I rejoice to feel that I am about to hand over the reins of Government to Lord Hardinge, a statesman whose abilities have distinguished him in many lands—and who inherits traditions of great service rendered to India.

Gentlemen, this is the last occasion upon which the Government of India and the representatives of the public services can meet together during my term of office. I have told you my story—I have told it to you who have been my

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fellow-workers and comrades in troublous times, who have helped me to steer the ship through many dangerous straits—the men of the great services which have built up the British Raj. We may perhaps at times have thought differently as to the course to be steered—it could not but be otherwise—but you have stood behind me loyally, and I thank you. And I leave India knowing full well that you will perpetuate the great traditions of British rule,—perhaps with few opportunities of much public applause, but with the inestimable satisfaction that you are doing your duty.

Gentlemen, I shall never forget the gathering of this evening, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the hospitality you have extended towards me to-night.

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FAREWELL ADDRESS FROM THE SIMLA  
MUNICIPALITY.

19th Oct. 1910.

[On the afternoon of the 19th October the Committee of the Simla Municipality consisting of Mr. A. B. Kettlewell, President, Colonel G. F. Wilson, R.E., Vice-President, Mr. R. Watson, Lala Jai Lal, Major Seton, Lt.-Col. Melville and Mr. A. R. Astbury, Members, and Mr. B. H. Dobson, Secretary, proceeded to Viceregal Lodge to present a farewell address to His Excellency the Viceroy. The Viceroy received the Committee in the ball room. Mr. Kettlewell presented the members of the Committee, and the following address, which was very beautifully illuminated and enclosed in a silver casket, was read by the President :—

*May it please Your Excellency,*—We, the President and Members of the Municipal Committee of Simla, desire to approach Your Excellency upon the termination of your high office and to express our sincere regret at your impending departure from our midst.

We congratulate Your Excellency upon the material prosperity which has characterised the history of the last 5 years in this country, upon their freedom to an unusual extent from the too familiar ravages of plague and famine and not least upon their marked immunity from the calamities of external warfare.

In the community which we have the honour to represent these years have witnessed very substantial progress in our local welfare. In 1907 Your Excellency, recognising the peculiar circumstances which

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environ a hill municipality and the growing importance of Simla as the summer headquarters of the Imperial Government, appointed a Committee to consider proposals for its improvement. Their deliberations, which traversed every aspect of municipal government, resulted in a definite programme of considerable magnitude.

Reinforced as they were by a liberal grant from Imperial revenues, the Committee's proposals have already been realised in large measure. The Hydro-Electric scheme, now approaching completion, will at once render Simla permanently free from the fear of water famine and will substitute electricity for the present ineffectual system of house and street lighting. The Municipal offices have been located in a building adequate to their growing importance, while several new roads have been laid out, forming a substantial addition to the amenities of the place.

Among other successful enterprises we may mention a new Police Station in the Main Bazar, a new fire station, the establishment of the telephone system in Simla, the extension of the railway to the old bullock train terminus and its connection with the business centre of the bazar by an elevated wire ropeway. The Municipal Committee propose, moreover, in the near future to provide a primary school, which will accommodate 450 boys and be the largest in the Province and to rebuild the bakery and grain market. Improvements have at the same time been effected in the conservancy and sewage arrangements, which we confidently believe will reduce the risk of epidemic disease.

We desire on behalf of all classes of the community to acknowledge the unfailing graciousness with which Her Excellency Lady Minto has entered into our social life, and the generous sympathy with which she has identified herself with our charitable institutions.

In conclusion, we would assure Your Excellency of our constant interest in your welfare and bid you farewell with the fervent hope that Your Lordship and Lady Minto will long enjoy in health and prosperity the leisure to which your strenuous labours in His Majesty's service have so honourably entitled you.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

*Mr. President and Gentlemen*,—I sincerely thank you for your kind words and your sympathetic reference to my approaching departure from Simla, and I hope I may also take this opportunity of admiring the beautiful illumination which adorns the address you have presented to me, which I am told is taken from an Anglo-Saxon Missal of the 10th Century and is the work of a nun from the Loretto Convent.

*Farewell Address from the Simla Municipality.*

It seems to me only the other day, Gentlemen, that I received an address of welcome from your Municipality on my arrival here, and it is hard to realise that nearly five years have passed since then.

It is very pleasant to be reminded by you that those years have been comparatively free from plague and famine, and that we have been spared the calamities of any great war.

I must also warmly congratulate you on the continued development of Simla requirements and its beautiful surroundings. I have always been anxious to assist the Municipality to meet the growing demands consequent upon an increasing residential population, and I hope that the Committee, which I appointed in 1907, has been able, by its consideration of local possibilities and by its advice, to contribute largely to the furtherance of useful proposals for the future. My span of office has been too short for me to see the final results of the Committee's labours, but I am glad to believe that a substantial impetus has been given to the inauguration of much needed improvements on sound business lines, amongst which the completion of the hydro-electric scheme, for which Simla is so much indebted to General Beresford-Lovett, will, I trust, largely contribute to the sanitation and lighting of the station. The Government of India, too, has not lost sight of opportunities of beautifying Simla by harmonizing the architecture of its buildings with the surroundings of its mountain scenery.

Whilst speaking of the amenities of Simla, I am sure, Gentlemen, you will agree with me in the great desirability of maintaining some place for recreation and outdoor sports, by which the public can benefit, and in this sense I hope the advantages of Annandale will not be lost sight of. As you know its funds have not been in a very flourishing condition of late years, and I have done what I can to resuscitate them and cannot but feel that, in the public interest, Annandale deserves support. From a

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*Review of Imperial Service Troops at Patiala.*

business point of view, the attraction it offers to visitors is not without its benefits in a commercial sense, but in addition to that it affords a centre where the general public can meet. Perhaps in speaking as the Viceroy, whose social surroundings are necessarily somewhat narrow, my reasons may appear selfish, yet the advantages not only to him, but to residents in the station of a centre where everyone is afforded some opportunity of making acquaintance with his neighbours is a very real advantage which we should, I think, all appreciate. I hope, therefore, the Municipality will, on public grounds, not lose sight of the welfare of Annandale. I am inclined to believe that they sympathise with my views.

I thank you warmly on behalf of Lady Minto for your appreciative reference to the interest she has taken in the life of the station and in its institutions. It is, I know, a great pleasure to her to hear that her endeavours are recognised by you.

I assure you, Gentlemen, that, when the day of our departure arrives, we shall say good-bye very sorrowfully, and that we shall always look back upon our life amongst you with many happy recollections.

I thank you again, Gentlemen, very sincerely for the kind words of your address.

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REVIEW OF IMPERIAL SERVICE TROOPS AT PATIALA.

[His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Lady Minto, Lady 3rd Nov. 1910, Eileen Elliot, and staff, left Simla on the morning of the 2nd November for a short tour before reaching Calcutta.

His Excellency and party arrived at Patiala on the morning of the 3rd November, and after a brilliant reception held a review of the State troops, which was a great success. At the conclusion of the Review His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

*Your Highness, Officers and Soldiers of the Patiala Imperial Service Troops,*—I am very glad to have had

*Review of Imperial Service Troops at Patiala.*

this opportunity of seeing you on parade. This is the second occasion on which I have had the pleasure of doing so. But when I was last at Patiala I was fortunate enough to see something of your good work in the field. I must warmly congratulate Your Highness on the excellence of to-day's movements. Nothing could have been better than the magnificent gallop past of your cavalry and you may well be proud of possessing such troops.

Your Highness, I hope you will also convey to the Commanding Officers of the different units my warm appreciation of the smartness and evident efficiency of their individual commands. I know how very much depends upon every commanding officer and I hope you will congratulate them from me upon the success which has attended their efforts. I know too that you will agree with me in warmly recognising the interest the British Inspecting Officers have taken in your troops.

But, Your Highness, excellent as have been the parade movements which I have seen to-day I feel sure that you will yourself take care that the practical training in field work is systematically pursued and that the interior economy and discipline of your regiments is carefully supervised.

Your Highness has, I know, always been ready to offer your troops for active service in the field, and though it has not as yet been possible to accept them I hope that should the opportunity occur they may some day take their place at the front with their comrades of the Indian Army.

Your Highness, it is always very sad to say good-bye, but it has been a great pleasure to me to again see your splendid regiments on parade before I leave India, and I shall always rejoice to hear of the continuance of the high soldierly reputation they have so well earned.

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## INSTALLATION OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF PATIALA.

[Immediately after the review a move was made to the durbar hall which was already full of officials and visitors. It presented a rich and striking scene. On one side of the superb State daïs were ranged officials of State in their gorgeous robes, and on the other were some native military officers and a large gathering of military and civil European officers, their sombre uniforms contrasting with the multicoloured Indian dress, and also several European ladies, who, grouped together at one place, formed a bright spot in the spectacle. 3rd Nov. 1910.

In short, the durbar ceremony was worthy of the noble traditions of the State of Patiala, one of the wealthiest in the Punjab, with a history resplendent with a long tale of glorious victories. The inherent spirit of this great Sikh State was everywhere testified. Those present had just come from a review which was an incontestable exhibition of the martial genius of the people. Here, again, one was surrounded on all sides by evidences of that valorous spirit. Ranged round the hall was a small body of Rajindar Lancers, fine strong men, immobile at their posts and altogether soldierly in their bearing. In another part of the hall were gathered a manly-looking set of militant officers. On the walls were grouped arms and all sorts of relics of ancient and modern warfare.

The investiture ceremony was simple but impressive. Shortly before His Highness the Maharaja and His Excellency arrived, Lady Minto, Lady Dane, Lady Eileen Elliot, the Misses Dane, and Miss Bayley took their seats in an alcove behind the daïs. An interval of some minutes then ensued, during which those within the hall heard a band, seemingly of native composition, strike up a popular ditty, the appropriateness of which was not quite understood.

On the arrival of His Excellency at the steps of the durbar hall the Connaught Rangers band played the National Anthem, and on the arrival of the Maharaja the Patiala band performed a similar duty for His Highness.

All in the hall rose as the Viceroy entered with His Highness and Sir Louis Dane (in political uniform) on either side. They were followed by Mr. Harcourt Butler, Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, Colonel Pinhey, Mr. Fenton, Colonel Brooke, Captain Lord Francis Scott, Captain Jelf, and Captain Muir, A.-D.-C.'s, Mr. Boughey, Under-Secretary to the Punjab Government, Major Bayley, Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, Captain Hartley, A.-D.-C. to His Honour, the Kanwar Sahib of Patiala, and the Maharaja's staff.



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*Installation of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala.*

When the Viceroy, the Maharaja, and Sir Louis Dane had taken their seats on the lower steps of the *daïs*, Mr. Harcourt Butler declared the *darbar* open. His Highness then presented a *nazzar* of one hundred and one gold mohurs to Lord Minto, after which His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

*Your Highness*,—This is the first and only occasion on which I have had an opportunity of investing a ruling Chief with full powers, and I rejoice that it has been possible for me before I leave India to be present at this important ceremony at Patiala, whose ruler I am glad to recognise as a personal friend.

To-day's celebration is full of historical interest, for it is a little more than a hundred years since my ancestor, Lord Minto, ratified that treaty with Ranjit Singh which secured for the Phulkian States the protection of the British Raj at a time when their very existence was at stake, and laid the foundation of a warm and mutual friendship between them and the British administrators. Since that treaty was signed in 1809, Patiala has been distinguished for its loyalty and fidelity to the British Government, and I feel that in conferring full powers on its young ruler I am to-day perpetuating the honourable traditions of the past.

Your Highness succeeded to the *gadi* in November 1900, and during your minority the affairs of your State were administered by a Council of Regency with eminently satisfactory results. The Council took up its duties at a time of considerable anxiety, but during its term of office the finances of the State have been placed in a sound condition, the judicial administration has been reformed, and a regular land settlement has been introduced, which is working successfully. Irrigation has been extended, and the water-works in Patiala city, of which I laid the foundation-stone in 1906, have been completed. Marked improvements have been carried out in medical and educational institutions, in both of which I have learnt with pleasure of the personal interest Your Highness is bestow-

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*Installation of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala.*

ing upon their development. Your Highness has, I know, liberally contributed to the large wing which has been added to the Rajindra Hospital.

Patiala has owed much to the able assistance in the past of British and Indian administrators, and since 1903 the State has lost the services of two distinguished members of the Council of Regency whom it could ill spare—Lala Bhagawan Dass and Khalifa Syed Muhammad Hussain—whilst in 1909 Mr. Biddulph retired from the position in which he had rendered so much valuable work. To his efforts is largely due the present flourishing condition of the finances. Mr. Warburton has also devoted himself to the duties with which he has been entrusted and has contributed very largely to the efficiency of the police in times of no little difficulty. In addition to the many administrative improvements in your State, Your Highness is, I know, justly proud of your Imperial Service Troops, which I had so much pleasure in reviewing to-day. This is the second occasion on which I have had the opportunity of admiring the splendid material of which they are composed, and of recognising the justice of that reputation for efficiency they have so well earned. I congratulate Your Highness on taking up the reins of government at a time when so much has already been done to further the administration and the executive machinery of your State.

I earnestly impress upon Your Highness the great responsibilities which you now assume. Your Highness is well aware of my wish to avoid interference in the internal affairs of the Native States in India, whilst at the same time putting at the disposal of their rulers all the assistance and advice in my power; but Your Highness will also clearly understand that in extending to you the hand of friendship the Imperial Government expect from you a full recognition of the duties you now undertake and cannot divest itself of the ultimate responsibility for

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*Installation of His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala.*

the good administration of the territories over which you are about to rule. I am assured that Your Highness will consult the Political Agent in important matters. You should find in him an experienced adviser. I am assured, too, that Your Highness accepts the full powers I am bestowing upon you to-day with the sincere intention of devoting them to the happiness and prosperity of your people, and after my departure from India I shall look forward to hearing of the success of your administration and the welfare of the State of Patiala.

[His Highness was then girded with the sword by Mr. Butler, and His Excellency formally installed the Maharaja on the *Gadi*, His Highness, Lord Minto, and Sir Louis Dane mounting the steps to the three chairs of State on the higher part of the *daïs*. Mr. Harcourt Butler at this point read out the Maharaja's titles. The *khullat* from the Viceroy to the Maharaja was brought in and laid at the foot of the *daïs*. His Highness made his speech and subsequently presented his *peshkush* to Lord Minto.

Mr. Atkins, Political Resident, presented the more important officials of the State to the Viceroy, and afterwards the Foreign Minister of State presented other officers, military and civil. *Attar* and *pan* were distributed and the *darbar* closed.

The State luncheon took place in the mess tent in the Baradari Gardens. His Excellency, His Highness, and Sir Louis Dane were present, besides all the visitors and many of the State officials. After luncheon the toast of the "King-Emperor" having been honoured, the Maharaja proposed the Viceroy's health, the response being to the strains of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

His Excellency responded in a few words, expressing his pleasure at having visited the State, and asked all to drink to the health of His Highness the Maharaja.

The Viceregal party then immediately left by special train, the departure being private.]

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FAREWELL ADDRESS FROM PUNJAB CHIEFS'  
ASSOCIATION.

[On passing through Amballa on the evening of the 3rd November 3rd Nov. 1910. His Excellency received an address from the Punjab Chiefs' Association, to which he made the following reply :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I really cannot thank you sufficiently for your address and for the more than kind appreciation you express of the services I have endeavoured to render to India during the last few years. You have come to say good-bye to me, and I assure you nothing could have done more to soften the pang of my farewell to you than the knowledge that you recognise my friendship towards yourselves and your people. The last time I received an address from your Association was in the Shalimar Gardens at Lahore on the 2nd of April 1909. Your Association had then been in existence only a few weeks. On that occasion you told me of the necessity of "making audible the views of a class which has felt its responsibilities towards the Government and the masses." You assured me that the Association was "vitaly interested in the maintenance of peace and order" and that it "stands ready to help the Government," that it was also "actuated by an ardent desire to put its house in order and effect such changes in it as are rendered indispensable by its environments."

I told your deputation in reply that though the Association was then in its infancy I should watch its growth with deep interest and that it had come into existence at a most opportune moment, when the air was full of political discussion, and when it was very encouraging to find the natural leaders of the people and those who had the greatest stake in the country showing a united front in the representation of interests affecting themselves as well as those of the population amongst whom they live. I felt that the Government could look to them as hereditary leaders for guidance and support in the maintenance of law and order.

*Farewell Address from Punjab Chiefs' Association.*

The address you have presented to me to-day shows that during the last year and a half your Association has faithfully fulfilled its objects, and has firmly supported the Government in critical times through which we have passed. It is very encouraging, too, to hear your appreciation of the reform schemes as a recognition of lawful aspirations, whilst lending every assistance in your power towards the suppression of anarchy, violence, and sedition. I hope that the enlarged councils will give further opportunities for the expression of opinion on public affairs by those who have the greatest stake in their country, and who can do so much to contribute towards its good government. You, Gentlemen, are the representatives of the many and loyal races of the Punjab. Upon your strength the Government of India feels that it can rely. It is to your good sense and knowledge of the every-day requirements of your countrymen that they must largely look for assistance. You have alluded, Gentlemen, to Lady Minto's solicitude for the betterment and elevation of the women of India, to her hospitality to purdah ladies, and to her interest in the Lady Dufferin Fund and the Nursing Association. I thank you on Lady Minto's behalf for all you have said, and I know that though we are leaving India she will never lose sight of the urgent necessities and the great possibilities of the work she has done her best to encourage. I again sincerely thank you, Gentlemen, for your address. I will make it my duty on my return to England to convey to the King-Emperor not only your dutiful homage, but the assurance of the loyal services you are rendering to British administration, and I shall carry away with me very warm recollections of our meeting this evening and of the farewell tendered to me by my friends in the Punjab.

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## STATE BANQUET AT RAMPUR.

[Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Minto arrived at Rampur early 4th Nov. 1910. on the morning of the 4th November and were met on the platform by His Highness the Nawab, the Hon'ble Mr. Tweedy, and General Drummond.]

After the chief officials had been presented to His Excellency, the Viceroy inspected the guard of honour furnished by His Highness the Nawab's State troops and then drove to the Khasbagh House. At 11 A.M. His Highness paid an informal visit to His Excellency, and in the afternoon the whole party rode out to Benazar Palace, the Nawab's country residence, along a charming drive lined with orange trees. On the way thence a visit was paid to the fort and Banqueting Hall at the State Banquet in the evening.

After proposing the health of the King-Emperor His Highness made the following speech :—“ Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen,—I rejoice to have the long-sought opportunity of welcoming Your Excellencies and Lady Eileen Elliot on behalf of myself and my people. This State already enjoys the honour of visits from several Governors-General, and had this visit been withheld, it would have occasioned the greatest disappointment to me and my subjects. My Lord, we have looked forward to this day with eager anticipation, because you not only have a claim on our esteem and admiration as being a champion of the cause of India, but, above all, you have secured the love of the Indian people and drawn the British Government closer to their hearts by the spirit of sympathy which you have infused into the Government of this country. This was the much needed element for which His Majesty the King-Emperor made a noble appeal in his famous speech at the Guildhall, and which Your Excellency has done so much to supply

“ During the last five years that Your Excellency has presided over the destinies of the Indian Empire, your task from the outset has been one of extreme perplexity and requiring the highest virtues of statesmanship. But no one who has watched the course of events can deny that, notwithstanding the enormous difficulties of the work, Your Excellency has acquitted yourself in a manner calculated to enhance your reputation as a ruler of men and to endear yourself to the vast population which it has pleased Providence to place under your charge. I do not assert that the enemies of the British Raj have not been in evidence during Your Lordship's Viceroyalty, for that wicked body of men have unfortunately been much to the fore in recent years. Their villainous intentions and execrable practices are

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too well known to need repetition. Suffice it to say that even Your Excellency's sacred person has not been immune from their dastardly attempts, and that they have done their utmost to retard this country's progress. But Your Lordship's consummate wisdom and intrepid courage are the outstanding features of the whole situation which the world will ever admire.

"Despite the gravest provocations and undaunted by the pessimistic warnings of those who are against every concession to popular sentiment, Your Excellency has gone on patiently but firmly with your work of reform. You have not shrunk on proper occasions from using the strongest weapons that the law provided against sedition, or from forging stronger ones where necessary, but you have firmly refused to lend countenance to excessive or unnecessary harshness. Your Excellency's firmness has been tempered with leniency. Your repression has brought reforms and increased popular liberties in its train. In short, the watchword of your Lordship's policy has been 'firmness and sympathy.' This being so, Indians would not be human if they could not find in their hearts a ready response to this tender feeling, and I refuse to believe that any sane inhabitant of this country can entertain any but the deepest feelings of loyalty and gratitude to yourself and to the Government which has secured for India the priceless blessings of liberty and peace.

"There is one other redeeming feature of the unhappy political conditions which have prevailed in India for the past few years that stands out from the rest and must be regarded with feelings of unmingled pleasure. I allude to the outbursts of indignation that have proceeded from Native States against seditious manifestations. When speaking of the ruling princes of India I feel some delicacy in approaching the subject, but I trust I may properly speak on the subject from a national and imperial standpoint. It is very true that some good may come out of every evil, and thus the recent anarchism and disaffection have brought to light the latent forces of loyalty and attachment that are jealously cherished by the princes and the nobility of India.

"It gives me much pleasure to observe that the goodwill of the princes towards the paramount power has been reciprocal, and I gratefully acknowledge that Your Excellency's foreign policy has been marked with the same generosity and benevolence as your internal policy. The Government by taking the princes into its confidence has drawn yet closer the bonds of fealty and devotion which bind them to the throne of England. It has shown an increasing regard for their rights and susceptibilities, and by pursuing an avowed policy of non-interference in internal matters it has restored

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the Native States to their constitutional position and pristine dignity. On their part the ruling princes and chiefs have sufficiently shown by their conduct and by their words that they are deeply sensible of the increasing respect for their sentiments, and they are resolved that the confidence reposed in them shall never be abused. They are pledged to support the British Government against foreign as well as domestic enemies, and may well be described as the bulwarks of British rule in India. Their instinct of self-preservation, their historic devotion to the British cause, and their appreciation of the difficulties of rulers, all combine to make their interests identical with those of the British Government.

"It is a significant fact that sedition and the cult of the bomb have utterly failed to take root in Native States. For my own part I look with abhorrence upon the contemptible conduct of those who wickedly and vainly design to subvert the British Government. These enemies of India and of mankind cannot in my opinion be too rigorously dealt with, and if, God forbid, they should attempt to poison the loyalty of my subjects they shall receive at my hands the most exemplary punishment.

"My Lord, the loyalty of my ancestors to the British Government tried in the hour of stress and danger, is the richest inheritance that has descended to me from my forefathers, and of all my inherited titles there is none that I prize so much as the one conferred for services rendered in the dark days of the Indian Mutiny. It is my cherished desire that should an opportunity offer itself, I may be permitted to testify in a practical way the traditional loyalty and devotion of my house to the throne and person of His Majesty the King-Emperor. About 70 years ago one of my ancestors assigned a portion of his cavalry, called the 'Rohilla Horse,' for the services of the British Government. The Imperial Service Lancers, whom I maintain to-day, are their successors, but for their thorough efficiency and up-to-date equipment, my best thanks are due to Major-General Drummond, the Inspector-General of Imperial Service Troops, and the inspecting officers appointed by Government.

"Your Excellency, every considerable measure of Government depends for its success on the continuity of the present policy, and the loyal support of the officials who have to enforce it. Considering the vital importance of your liberal policy regarding the Native States and its happy results, it is essential that it be continued, and even be extended. There should be no going back on this policy so happily begun in your time. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces and his Agent for Rampur have given their whole-hearted support to your measures. His Honour Sir John Hewett



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has shown himself eager to appreciate my difficulties, to understand my standpoint, and to discuss all matters in a spirit of perfect friendliness. The cordiality of our relations has been a distinguishing feature of his administration, and I would not forego this opportunity of expressing my warm appreciation of the kindness which he has always extended to me.

"It is to the friendly and just attitude of Sir John Hewett, with whom I claim also the privilege of personal friendship, that I owe in a measure the happiness of my subsisting relations with Your Excellency's Government.

"In conclusion I must heartily thank Her Excellency the Countess of Minto and Lady Eileen Elliot for their great kindness in accepting my invitation and gracing Rampur with their presence. We are all aware that the prominent part Her Excellency has played in relieving the sufferings of the sick and poor has been simply a work of love to Her Ladyship. It is my honour to propose the toast of His Excellency the Viceroy, whose name will always be remembered in India with the warmest affection and gratitude.

"I would also offer my sincere thanks to the Hon'ble Mr. Tweedy for the successful rôle he has so tactfully played as Agent for this State.

"My Lord, it is my firm belief that you may well look upon the record of your guardianship of India with genuine satisfaction. Your Excellency is leaving India more contented and happier than you found it. The legitimate aspirations of the Indian subjects have been more than satisfied, the grievances of the feudatories are being righted, and, generally, the Government of India has been broad-based on the people's affection.

"Never before was so much accomplished in so short a time and so unostentatiously. It is my humble opinion that the new era of increased prosperity, peace and goodwill inaugurated by Your Excellency owes its existence to three great personages. First and foremost comes the illustrious name of His Imperial Majesty George Fifth, who, from before his succession to the Throne, has evinced a keen interest in all that appertains to the good of India. Five years ago, when I had the honour of paying my respects to His Majesty at Lucknow, I learned at first hand his solicitude on behalf of this country, and the grateful recollections of interviews there accorded to me are too vivid and pleasant to fade from my memory. It was after this tour that His Majesty gave eloquent expression to his diagnosis of this country's troubles and advocated a policy of sympathy. Next, we are ever beholden to Your Excellency for your unflagging zeal, capacity and courage in putting that policy into operation; and, lastly, we have to heartily thank His Majesty's

*State Banquet at Rampur.*

Secretary of State for his wisdom and liberality in the interests of India."

His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen*,—I thank your Highness very heartily for the welcome you have extended to Lady Minto, Lady Eileen, and myself on this our first visit to your State.

During our last days in India our time is, as Your Highness has said, very full of engagements ; but it would have been a great disappointment to us if they had prevented me accepting Your Highness's kind invitation to Rampur.

Not only is my visit to Your Highness a personal pleasure, but I have looked forward to meeting in his own territory a ruler whose ancestors have rendered such distinguished services to the British administration. Your Highness has inherited many glorious traditions, and the unswerving loyalty of your family in the trials of 1857 will never be forgotten. And in recent years, during the anxieties which the political agitation has created throughout this country, the Government of India has owed much to your steadfast loyalty, whilst I have had good reason to welcome your co-operation and advice in respect to measures which the instigators of sedition had rendered necessary.

Your Highness, too, has succeeded to the military spirit of your forefathers. You may well be proud of the splendid cavalry regiment you have placed at the disposal of the Government of India, whose services you offered in the recent Mohmand campaign, when I so much regret it was impossible to accept them, and I am very pleased to be able to tell Your Highness that the proposal you so generously made to increase your Imperial Service Infantry by one battalion has been approved by His Majesty's Government. I am glad to know that His Majesty the King-Emperor has signalled his appreciation of the loyal feelings which have prompted Your Highness's offers by appointing you one of his A.-D.-C.'s with the rank of Colonel.

*State Banquet at Rampur.*

In the internal affairs of your State, too, Your Highness has, since you ascended the *gadi* fourteen years ago, fully recognised the duty of a ruler to his subjects. You have done much to improve your administrative machinery. You have fostered and encouraged education and have indeed identified yourself with the cause of education in India by the generous grant of Rs. 50,000 to the Daly College at Indore, of which institution I have recently had the pleasure of nominating Your Highness a member of the General Council; of Rs. 15,000 for the University building at Allahabad; and Rs. 25,000 towards the Aligarh College. Much also has been done for the extension of irrigation in Rampur, by which Your Highness's subjects largely benefited during the recent severe famine in the United Provinces, when, owing to your enlightened policy, no relief works were found necessary in your State. At the same time you have made the development of local industries your special care. The sugar factory, which was recently established, promises, I understand, to prove a successful undertaking, whilst you have every reason to be satisfied with the improvement of the breed of local cattle and the success of the Rampur dairy farm.

I warmly congratulate Your Highness upon all you have done and are doing for the good administration of your State and the welfare of your people. I should have been very sorry to leave India without accepting the hospitality of a Chief whose administration has earned for him such well-deserved admiration. I thank Your Highness most sincerely for all you have so kindly said of my efforts to combat the difficulties with which the Government of India has been surrounded during the last few years. Though those difficulties brought with them many evils, they have, as Your Highness has very truly said, elicited from the Native States of India invaluable manifestations of loyalty to the Throne. I know full well that I personally owe much to the loyal and friendly advice of the ruling Chiefs of India.

*Address from Allahabad Municipality.*

Your Highness, I thank you sincerely on behalf of Lady Minto for your appreciation of her work and her interest in the happiness of the people of this country. We, Lady Minto, Lady Eileen, and I, rejoice that it has been possible for us to accept your kindly invitation, and we shall always look back upon our visit to Rampur with many recollections of the beauty of your State and your own lavish hospitality.

I thank you again, Your Highness, for the terms in which you have proposed the toast of my health, and you, ladies and gentlemen, for the cordiality with which you have received it, and I now ask you to join with me in drinking to the health of your distinguished host, His Highness the Nawab of Rampur.

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ADDRESS FROM ALLAHABAD MUNICIPALITY.

[The Viceregal party arrived at Allahabad on the morning of the 9th Nov. 1910.

9th November.

Sir John Hewett, the Lieutenant-Governor, with Mr. Brownrigg, Commissioner, the General Officer Commanding the Division and the Officer Commanding the Garrison, Colonels and officers of the different regiments were on the platform to receive Their Excellencies.

The station was bright with bunting, and the platform was covered with baize. As the train with its long white saloons swept into the station, round the curve, with a murmur of the slowing wheels, the Guard of Honour sprang to attention, and the band sounded the first bar of God Save the King.

There was a stir through the packed ranks of sober officials and resplendent Indian noblemen as His Excellency, Lady Minto and Lady Eileen, all looking in the best of health, alighted from the train.

The party then proceeded to the tent close by where the Municipal address welcoming His Excellency to the city was read by the senior Vice-Chairman. The Address was as follows :--

"We, the Municipal Commissioners of Allahabad, beg to accord a hearty welcome on this occasion of Your Excellency's arrival in our city. We are deeply sensible of the honour Your Excellency confers on us and tender our respectful thanks that in the midst of multifarious duties and engagements, Your Excellency has gratified our long-felt desire that Your Excellency should visit the Capital of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

*Address from Allahabad Municipality.*

"Since the dim beginnings of history our city has been venerated under the name of Prayag as a place of pilgrimage, but wars and tumult have taken their toll and left posterity but few monuments of the past to adorn our city. Your Excellency may find it hard to realize that the open plain where we meet this day was, in the days of Your Excellency's illustrious grandfather, the centre of a busy trading town, and that this ephemeral exhibition occupies the site of the old city of Allahabad. But ever since the transfer of the seat of Government in 1858 and the re-establishment of the High Court, many noble buildings and institutions have risen to testify that under the benign influence of British Government this city has taken a new lease of life. The establishment of Muir Central College in 1872 and the creation of the Allahabad University in 1887 are epochs in the progress of Indian education. Last year an event of even greater importance occurred when Sir John Hewett, Chancellor of the University, laid the foundation-stone of the Senate House and University buildings, which were designed in the Indo-Saracenic style by Sir Swinton Jacob, and will be erected by the subscriptions of generous benefactors. The scheme has been conceived on generous lines and when funds are available to add the Law College and Hostel and link them to the Muir Central College by a park, we shall boast a university that in beauty and design will be second to none in India.

"The Local Government in January 1909 constituted an Improvement Trust and made a generous grant of two and-a-half lakhs towards the fulfilment of the objects of the Trust. By this means we who are the Trustees have been enabled to remove many insanitary dwellings, provide healthy sites for housing the poorer classes, and are now engaged in driving a broad road through a congested portion of the city. Meanwhile we have not been unmindful of the needs and aspirations of the wealthy classes and have lately laid out at Sohbatia Bagh a residential suburb where private gentlemen can build modern residences in the midst of healthy and beautiful surroundings.

"We are deeply conscious of our shortcomings and failures in the internal administration of the affairs of this city, but we assure Your Excellency that we devote much time and thought to the problems of self-government and strive to our utmost to transact our business with integrity, economy and despatch. Our finances present a problem of almost insurmountable difficulty, and mature consideration has forced upon us the conclusion that without substantial assistance from provincial and imperial revenues we are unable to discharge our obligations towards the Capital city of these Provinces.

*Address from Allahabad Municipality.*

With an income of five and-a-half lakhs of rupees our normal expenditure has now reached five lakhs and thirty thousand rupees, and yet we feel that, to satisfy the requirements of modern civilization, we must enlarge our water-supply and improve our drainage. Projects for these schemes have already been prepared and involve an estimated expenditure of twenty lakhs of rupees. We have already tapped all available sources of revenue and have reached a point where further taxation might become burdensome. It is with anxious expectancy that we await the orders that Your Excellency's Government may pass on the proposal to abolish octroi which yields a moiety of our gross income. But our anxieties are relieved by the knowledge that in consequence of the constitutional reform that has been the outstanding achievement of Your Excellency's administration, the Government is in close touch and sympathy with our difficulties and aspirations, and that our cause is voiced in the counsels of this Empire. Your Excellency has conferred on this city the inestimable boon of representation on the Legislative Council of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor; and we are the more fortunate in that we have now a member of this Board sitting on Your Excellency's august council.

"In assuring Your Excellency of our unswerving loyalty and staunch support, we are proud to be able to display an escutcheon free from all stain of sedition and to bear testimony to the loyal fealty of the citizens of Allahabad. In conclusion, we thank Your Excellency for the honour of this visit, and we take this opportunity to wish Your Excellency a good voyage and prosperous return to the shores of your native land."

In reply to the Address His Excellency said :— ]

*Gentlemen*,—I sincerely thank you for the hearty welcome you have extended to me on behalf of your city. This is not my first visit to Allahabad, for I attended a military ceremony here some two years ago, but it is the first opportunity I have had of meeting the representatives of your municipality, and I much regret that it has not been possible for me to come here before or to remain longer in the capital of the United Provinces. I wish I could have seen much more of this ancient stronghold of the Mogul Emperors, and of the beautiful surroundings, which the junction of the Ganges and the Jumna have from time immemorial rendered so sacred to pilgrims. You tell

*Address from Allahabad Municipality.*

me that the old city has disappeared, and that years of war and tumult have obliterated the landmarks of the past, but on its site the great Exhibition, in which your Lieutenant-Governor has taken so much interest, is shortly to be held and a modern town with many notable buildings and institutions has come into existence.

Since Allahabad became your Capital in 1856 the High Court, the Muir Central College and the University have signalised its development, and it is now to be further adorned by the erection of a Senate House and University buildings, designed by Sir Swinton Jacob, who has done so much for modern Indian Architecture, the foundation-stone of which was laid by Sir John Hewett only last year. You have indeed good reason to be satisfied at such marked progress. The members of your Municipality, I know, Gentlemen, deserve great credit for the interest and labour they have devoted to the problems of self-government and to the further improvement of the area under their charge, and I am glad to hear from you that an Improvement Trust has been constituted for this purpose, and that with its assistance the Trustees have already been able to do much to improve the condition of the poorer inhabitants of the city, whilst at the same time the amenities of the residential localities have not been lost sight of.

I fully realise the financial considerations which such improvements entail, but which are nevertheless praiseworthy indications of Municipal advance, the success of which I earnestly hope future revenues may prove sufficient to ensure.

It is a great pleasure to me to recognise your appreciation of the constitutional reforms introduced during my administration, and to know that no seditious agitation has found a foothold amongst the citizens of Allahabad.

I thank you again, Gentlemen, for the kind words of your Address and for your good wishes. I only regret that pressure of my numerous engagements has so curtailed my visit to your beautiful city.

LAYING FOUNDATION-STONE OF PROCLAMATION  
PILLAR AND OPENING MINTO PARK,  
ALLAHABAD,

[After His Excellency had replied to the Address of the Municipality 9th Nov. 1910. the Viceregal party proceeded to the site of the Proclamation Pillar and Minto Park. The function was brilliant and was not spoilt, despite the torrents that came down. It was a feast of colour that greeted His Excellency and Lady Minto on their farewell visit to this great garrison town. Troops of all arms paraded, the whole garrison turned out to parade and all the barons of Oudh, landowners, and chiefs from the surrounding territory in their varied and splendid garb were present. Gleams of watery sunshine reflected on the braided uniforms and the gleaming weapons. Swarms of natives of the city also were in all tints from brown grey and spotless white to old rose, violet, sulphur, and sky blue colour, and velvet silk and bare buff. The ordered parade of the trained men and the picturesque disorder of the pressing multitude composed a tableau as animated as the picturesque background of the distant red sandstone bastions of the old Fort above the meeting of the floods of the Ganges and the Jumna, the groves of the dark mango for which this region is noted, the buildings of the new Exhibition shining white amidst the trees, and the tall railway bridge, flinging its spiderweb lattice upon the huge red stone piers, over the brown waters of the Jumna.

After His Excellency had taken his seat the Hon. Pandit Matilal Nehru, one of the secretaries of the All-India Minto Memorial Committee, read an address of welcome, which was as follows :—

“The desire to commemorate the proclamation in suitable form has long been cherished. Referring to the Victoria Memorial Hall at Calcutta, Lord Curzon said : ‘Upon the walls of this hall might be inscribed in letters of gold, or upon bronze, both in English and the different vernaculars, the famous proclamation of 1858 and such other messages as the Queen has at various times addressed to the Indian people .... The Emperor Asoka has spoken to posterity for 2,200 years through his inscriptions on rock and stone—Why should not Victoria do the same?’ Subsequent events which have happened in the course of Your Excellency’s Viceroyalty have helped to strengthen the idea so happily expressed by Lord Curzon. That Viceroyalty has been distinguished for the notable effect given to the principles of the Queen’s proclamation in the admission of Indians to a larger and more responsible share in the administration of their country’s affairs, in their appointment to the executive councils of the Government of India and of the local Governments and in the improved relations of the Government of India with the Native States. When proposals



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*Laying Foundation-Stone of Proclamation Pillar and Opening Minto Park, Allahabad.*

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for commemorating it were discussed, it was suggested that the most suitable memorial which could be raised for the purpose might be a pillar like one of the pillars of Asoka, on which should be inscribed the proclamation of Queen Victoria, the proclamation of King Edward VII and the message of His Majesty the present King-Emperor—erected at the very place where the Queen's proclamation was first published by Lord Canning in 1858, and placed in the middle of a Park with which, with Your Excellency's permission, your name should be associated. Such a memorial would for ages remind generations of the great and enduring principles on which British rule in India has been based, of the benignant messages addressed to them by three of their noble sovereigns, and of the earnest and large-hearted efforts made by Your Excellency in giving effect to them in your memorable administration.

"On behalf of the All-India Minto Memorial Committee we beg to offer you a most cordial welcome to this ancient city and to tender to you our most grateful thanks for having accepted our invitation to lay the foundation-stone of the Proclamation Pillar. Among the many important events connected with British rule in India there has been none of greater significance than the transfer of the Government from the East India Company to the Crown. And among the many important documents of State which are to be found in the archives of the Government of India, there is none which can compare in its dignity, magnanimity and statesmanship with the great proclamation which announced that change. From the day that that proclamation was published, it has been held in veneration by the highest representatives of the Crown and by the princes and people of this country as the Magna Charta of India. Our beloved late King-Emperor referred to it in his proclamation of November, 1908, as 'the Great Charter of 1858' and in the Message which our present King-Emperor was graciously pleased to address to us a few months ago, His Majesty referred to Queen Victoria's proclamation and to King Edward's proclamation of 1908 as 'the charters of the noble and benignant spirit of Imperial rule,' by which spirit, in all his time to come, His Majesty was pleased to say, he would faithfully abide. The proclamation embodies, in the words of Lord Northbrook, 'the first principles of our Indian administration,' and the Government of India regards it, in the words of Lord Lansdowne, 'as in the highest degree obligatory upon it.' Lord Curzon summed up the utterances of his predecessors, when he spoke of 'the famous Proclamation of 1858 as the Magna Charta of India, the golden guide to our conduct and aspirations.'

*Laying Foundation-Stone of Proclamation Pillar and Opening  
Minto Park, Allahabad.*

"The proposal so put forward was warmly approved by the princes and the public of all parts of India. And it is particularly gratifying that although proposals for two other memorials in honour of Your Excellency have since come before the public, the All-India scheme put forward by this committee has received widespread and liberal support. This furnishes one more proof of the high esteem in which Your Excellency is held and of the admiration and gratitude which are felt for you in all parts of the country.

"The reason for this is not difficult to understand. When five years ago Your Lordship took charge of the Government of India, discontent and dissatisfaction were growing in the land. Your Lordship with the eye of a true statesman recognised that much of this discontent was due to causes which the Government was called upon to examine. You recognised that aspirations were cherished by important classes of the population, the justice of which could not be denied; that these aspirations merely embodied the desires and hopes of thoughtful Indians for a larger share in the government of their own country; that these hopes were based on natural justice and were strengthened by Queen Victoria's proclamation of 1858, and that all this was largely the result of the ripening of the educational seed which the British Government had to its lasting credit deliberately and systematically sown in India. As Your Excellency was pleased to say the other day in the great speech delivered by you at Simla, it was perfectly open to the Government of India either to refuse to recognise the signs of the times or to recognise them and to attempt to deal with the new conditions. Truly did you say that if the Government of India had adopted the former course, it would have gone back upon all that it had said and done in the past, and alienated from the cause of British administration many who had been brought up in its doctrines and had built hopes upon a belief in its justice. It is admitted on all hands that the measures of constitutional reform which have been the great work of your administration have vastly improved the situation. They have entitled you to the gratitude of your own countrymen as well as of the people of this country. It must ever be a source of great satisfaction to Your Excellency to think that you will hand over India to your distinguished successor more contented and peaceful than you found it at the beginning of your *régime*.

"We beg once more to tender to Your Excellency our warmest thanks for having accepted our invitation. We beg also to tender our grateful thanks to Her Excellency Lady Minto, to whom Indians of all classes are much indebted for the interest she has taken in their welfare during the last five years, for having graced this occasion by

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*Laying Foundation-Stone of Proclamation Pillar and Opening Minto Park, Allahabad.*

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her presence. In the name and on behalf of the committee, we have now the honour to request Your Excellency to lay the foundation-stone of the Proclamation Pillar and to permit us to associate your honoured name with the park which we hope to lay out around it."

The Viceroy spoke as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I heartily thank you for the welcome you extend to me on behalf of the All-India Minto Memorial Committee and for the honour you have done me in inviting me to lay the foundation-stone of the Proclamation Pillar. I cannot but feel that the ceremony in which you have asked me to take part to-day must constitute a landmark in the history of India. For the Pillar which you propose to erect is to commemorate the ratification of principles proclaimed by a great Queen at a moment when India had only just emerged from the terrors of cruel trials, when the assumption of the government of this country by the Crown was to commence a new era in British administration, and since Queen Victoria called upon her subjects in her Indian territories "To be faithful and to bear true allegiance to us, our heirs and successors," two successive King-Emperors have endorsed the principles of her great pronouncement. On the very spot on which we stand to-day, at the junction of the mighty waters of the Ganges and Jumna, Lord Canning more than 50 years ago delivered Queen Victoria's message to the Princes and People of India. It is impossible to look back upon the years which have passed since then without emotion, without admiration of much good work and brave and faithful services rendered to the Empire, without marvelling at the influences and aspirations which the last 50 years have brought forth, or without a proud belief in the future possibilities of this great country. Gentlemen, you have associated the constitutional reforms which have been inaugurated during my administration with the confirmation of the principles of Queen Victoria's proclamation, and you have determined in response to widespread popular feeling to commemorate the fulfilment

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*Laying Foundation-Stone of Proclamation Pillar and Opening Minto Park, Allahabad.*

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of the hopes embodied in that magnanimous document of State.

The scheme you have submitted to me has from its inception had my complete sympathy. A pillar such as you propose will fittingly remind future generations of the Magna Charta granted to the Peoples of India.

In a recent speech, to which you so kindly alluded, I attempted to deal with the many causes which in my opinion have assisted to consummate the hopes you have so consistently cherished. There is no reason for me to wander into repetition. I need only tell you that in the spirited words with which you have to-day addressed me you reiterate views I share with you and upon which I have constantly laid stress. Gentlemen, you have paid me the great honour of associating my name with the All-India Memorial which is to grace these historic surroundings, and when I glance at the distinguished names which adorn your long list of patrons and listen to the generous words you address to myself I realize that the recognition you bestow upon my share in the labours of the last few years is the tribute which I value above all else—the appreciation of the Princes and leaders of your fellow-countrymen.

Gentlemen, I am fully aware of the responsibilities the inauguration of the memorial has entailed upon your Committee, especially upon your two Secretaries, the Hon. Pandit Matilal Nehru, and the Hon. Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. I congratulate them on the success of their efforts, and I shall look forward to hearing from them of the erection of the Pillar and the completion of a Park which may worthily add to the natural beauties of its site.

I thank you, Gentlemen, on behalf of Lady Minto, for your graceful reference to her interest in the welfare of your people, which she has so much at heart. We shall carry away with us vivid recollections of the memorable ceremony of to-day, a ceremony full of historic meaning and of great political significance.

*Address from Benares District and Municipal Boards.*

[The Viceroy then inspected the silver model of the pillar which is after the style of Asoka's pillar and is surmounted by a crown. His Excellency, proceeding to the place where the foundation-stone was, declared it well and truly laid amid the applause of the vast assembly. As the ceremony concluded, a heavy shower came down.

Lady Minto shortly after received an address from Indian ladies in the Purdah Club within the Exhibition grounds.

Subscriptions up to date for the Minto Memorial Scheme amount to over one lakh and forty thousand rupees. The proposed Pillar will be raised about fifty-five feet above ground, and will stand in the middle of a platform thirty-three feet square. The design is like that of a lion-topped pillar of Asoka at Sarnath. Over four lions at the top of the pillar rests the British Crown in the middle. On one side will be a medallion of Queen Victoria and on another that of King Edward.

Further down extracts from the Great Proclamation of Queen Victoria will be inscribed on one side in English, and on the two other sides translations of the same will be inscribed in vernacular, in Nagri and Urdu.

On the fourth side will be inscribed extracts from the Proclamation issued by the late King on November 1908 and also from the message recently sent to the Princes and People of India by King George.]

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#### ADDRESS FROM BENARES DISTRICT AND MUNICIPAL BOARDS.

10th Nov. 1910. [The Viceregal party arrived at Benares late in the evening of the 9th November. On the following morning after certain functions had taken place the Benares Municipal and District Boards presented the following address :—

*" May it please Your Excellency,—*We, the members of the Benares District and Municipal Boards, desire most respectfully to offer Your Excellency and Lady Minto our heartiest welcome to our ancient and sacred city. The story of the foundation of our city is lost in the mists of antiquity in the days when the great god Brahma made his famous horse sacrifice at the Dasaswamedh Ghat.

*" From all times Benares has held the first place among the sacred cities of the Hindus. In this city are found representatives of all the*

*Address from Benares District and Municipal Boards.*

various sects and races that make up the Indian nation. Worshipers of Siva, Vishnu, and Kali, Sikhand, Nepalese, Bengali, Mahratta, Gujerati and Tailangi, Mahomedans, and Christians all have representatives and their special places of worship, living side by side in harmony and friendship. Nor is it alone to the Hindus that the city is sacred, but to the followers of the Buddha it is especially holy owing to the fact that from Sarnath near by the great teacher commenced his preaching. Benares has ever been renowned for the learning of its pandits, and this reputation it still maintains. The cradition of scholars of the Government Sanskrit College is famed throughout India. Modern learning is well represented by two English colleges and six English high schools, besides numberless elementary schools.

"The architectural beauties of our city are numerous. Every style of Hindu architecture is to be found in the countless temples which have been erected. The Mahomedan Emperors added many fine mosques, and English architectures are represented in the beautiful Gothic building inhabited by the Queen's College.

"In industry our city enjoys a position of which it is proud. The skilful and industrious weavers of the town produce far-famed silks and brocades. The brassware of Benares has a well-established reputation throughout the world. In Municipal administration this city has a good record. The town enjoys the blessing of a good supply of filtered water, and our drainage system is the finest in these provinces. Much remains to be done, and our resources are limited, but step by step improvements are carried out as funds are available. The city boasts of several fine institutions for the relief of sickness and suffering, foremost among which is the Prince of Wales' Hospital. The foundation-stone of this hospital was laid by our late beloved King-Emperor, in whose revered memory our citizens have subscribed over half a lakh of rupees towards its improvement.

"In conclusion we desire to assure Your Excellency of the pride and pleasure felt by the inhabitants of this city that you are in our midst even for so short a visit. Our earnest hope is that you will enjoy your well-earned rest after the strenuous work you have devoted to this country. We further trust that you will recognise in the warm welcome that awaits you not only signs of your personal popularity, but further the loyal devotion of this city to him of whom you are the representative, our beloved and revered King-Emperor."

His Excellency's reply was as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I heartily thank you for your kindly words of welcome to Lady Minto and myself. This is my first

*Address from Benares District and Municipal Boards.*

visit to your city. I have unfortunately been prevented on more than one occasion from coming amongst you, and I cannot say how grievously disappointed I should have been if I had been unable to do so before I left India. I have long looked forward to visiting Benares, the ancient and sacred city of the Hindus; sacred also to the followers of Buddha, for, as you tell me, it was at Sarnath that he first preached to his disciples.

Benares has been renowned, too, from time immemorial, for its learned men, and still retains the reputation of the old days. The fame of its pundits still remains together with the distinction of its Sanskrit scholars whilst two colleges—the Queen's and the Central Hindu—and other educational establishments represent the interests of modern institutions. Moreover, you have every reason to be satisfied with the industrial prospects of your city, for its silks and brocades and beautiful brass work are celebrated in the world's markets.

Your municipal administration has gained for itself a well-deserved reputation. It has supplied the town with good filtered water and a drainage system, and has done much for the relief of sickness, in which direction the King Edward VII Hospital is your principal institution, the foundation-stone of which was laid by the King-Emperor. It is encouraging to know that the loyalty and good behaviour of Benares have been remarkable. For many years no popular disturbance has taken place—I believe since 1891—and a thoroughly good feeling prevails between the various communities.

I much regret, Gentlemen, that my visit is unavoidably so hurried. But I hope you will convey to your fellow-citizens the sincerest appreciation of Lady Minto and myself for the warmth of the welcome to us. I only wish our stay amongst them could have been prolonged.

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## STATE BANQUET AT BENARES.

[On the evening of the 10th instant His Highness the Maharaja 10th Nov. 1910. of Benares entertained the Viceroy, Lady Minto, Staff, and a large number of guests at a State Banquet.

The occasion was made more interesting and noteworthy by the announcement made by His Excellency that the Maharaja had been raised to the status of a ruling Chief.

In proposing the health of their Excellencies the Maharaja spoke as follows :—

*Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—It is a no mere formality that I rise to propose the health of my illustrious guests, Lord and Lady Minto. To-day I am proud to add one more link to that golden chain of unparalleled honour which has been bequeathed to me by my ancestors. No Chief in India shares with me the most enviable privilege of showing an unbroken record of welcoming and entertaining every representative of our Sovereign, from Warren Hastings downwards. Who can, therefore, gauge my happiness on this most felicitous occasion when I find our Viceroy once more gracing my humble abode with his presence and partaking of my poor hospitality, and thus maintaining the privilege of which my house is justly proud? Though the hospitality and entertainment which I am to-day offering to Their Excellencies may be inferior to what they have received at other places, yet I am confident that any deficiency will be forgiven to one whose only boast is and has been unsullied and unwavering loyalty. From the time of the advent of the British power to Northern India, when my ancestor, Raja Balwant Singh, helped to win for the British the Battle of Buxar, till the time of the Indian Mutiny, my ancestors have proved their loyalty not by mere words but by deeds, and if an occasion offered again, my only ambition will be to prove that I am not an unworthy representative of a loyal family.

“The house which to-day witnesses these proceedings is one which has played no less an important part in the development of the Indian Empire.

“Yonder stands the famous staircase where just 111 years ago stood Mr. Davis, spear in hand, keeping Wazir Ali and his 200 myrmidons at bay and putting them all to rout unassisted, thus showing to the world what a British arm is capable of doing in face of fearful odds, and also proving that the British won and were holding India by moral and not mere armed force. During the time of the Indian Mutiny this with the sister house, ‘The Mint,’ played a conspicuous part which is a matter of comparatively recent history.



*State Banquet at Benares.*

Here is the porch where my father bade Godspeed to General Havelock leading forth his troops to victory for the relief of Lucknow and Cawnpore.

"In this very house we are to-day entertaining Lord and Lady Minto, the fourth in descent from that illustrious Governor-General who ruled India so very wisely and firmly, about one hundred years ago. During the brief space of five years our Viceroy has proved how a great administration is capable of blending firmness with mildness, and strict justice with forgiveness, and how a British statesman is incapable of swerving from the path of rectitude and righteousness even under grossest provocation. No Viceroy ever had a more difficult task before him, and no Viceroy has faced such a situation with more tact and firmness. From the conduct of frontier warfare down to the pay and allowance of poor and toiling clerks, there is not a single question which has not felt the touch of his master-hand.

"In our Indian mythology the ruler of this world is represented with a mace in one hand and a bowl full of gold in the other. With one he punishes the wicked. With the other he showers bounties upon the good. Our Viceroy has truly represented the celestial ruler in this respect. He did not shrink from punishing the evil-doers, and showered his bounties upon the deserving. Although he was not slow in forging strong weapons to crush the anarchical movement in this country, he at the same time presented India with that liberal reform which has been the admiration of the world and with which His Excellency's name will ever be connected. A less gifted and a less strong statesman would have shrunk from initiating such sweeping reforms with Indian unrest and anarchical movements on all sides manifest. But Lord Minto saw beneath the surface, he truly interpreted the signs of the times, and he did initiate the reforms in spite of all forebodings. His real strength of character, his strong sense of justice and his far-sighted statesmanship were manifested in this way. He showed to the world, as he himself said the other day, that 'the strongest man was he who was not afraid of being called weak.' These reforms have already borne good fruits, and in fulness of time, when they shall prove their true merits, the children of our children shall truly say it was Lord Minto who wrought them lasting good. It will be no exaggeration to say that the period of Lord Minto's rule will be the most memorable of the pages of recent Indian History.

In Lady Minto we find all that is noble and tender in human nature. Her close attention to the workings of the Lady Dufferin Fund, and her initiation of a regular Nursing Service which is calculated to mitigate the sufferings of many, have clearly shown

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that an English lady is quite capable of bearing the heaviest of the white man's burden. Ladies and Gentlemen, I have claimed sufficient of your time and would now conclude by asking you to drink to the health of our most distinguished Viceroys and Vicereines, Lord and Lady Minto. We wish them all happiness in their own country, and we assure them that we shall always remember them with grateful and affectionate regard.

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen*,—Your Highness, I cannot thank you sufficiently for the cordiality of the reception you have extended to me, or for the kind words in which you have proposed the health of Lady Minto and myself. I assure Your Highness it would have been a bitter disappointment to me if I had been unable to visit Benares during my term of office, and to have been the first to break the long chain of official visits which every Viceroy has paid since the days of Warren Hastings. I regret that my visit has been so long delayed. It has more than once been unavoidably postponed, but I welcome the opportunity which has come to me at last.

It is very interesting to hear that the old house in which we are assembled to-night has played its part in history. If its ancient walls could speak they could tell stirring stories of British heroism. Your ancestors, too, Your Highness, have courageously upheld the traditions of your family, and have loyally assisted to safeguard British administration. It is, therefore, all the greater satisfaction to me on the eve of my departure from India to be able to recognise the faithful services of Your Highness and Your Highness's predecessors. Your Highness will no doubt recollect that as long ago as March, 1905, you addressed a memorial to the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces in which you prayed that means might be found to give you and your successors a defined and permanent status amongst the ruling Chiefs of India.

It is a great pleasure to me to be able to announce that the proposals of the Government of India for meeting

*State Banquet at Benares.*

Your Highness's wishes have now been accepted by His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, and that after certain minor questions have been settled you will be able to take an honoured place amongst the great feudatories of the Empire. I need not at present recount the history of Your Highness's family or discuss the questions which have been raised as to the status of the Rajas of Benares prior to and since the agreement of 1794. It is sufficient for me to say that Your Highness comes of an ancient house, the representatives of which, from the time of Raja Balwant Singh, have held a special position in relation, first to the Court of Delhi, and afterwards to the British Government.

That status has in many respects resembled that of a ruling Chief, and Your Highness and your predecessors have to some extent enjoyed the honours, powers and privileges appertaining to that rank. But there have been ambiguities in the position of Your Highness's family which have been a constant source of complaint, and which for the satisfaction both of yourself and the British Government it is desirable to remove. To effect this object and in recognition of Your Highness's unique position it has been decided, with the concurrence of His Majesty's Government, to constitute part of the family domains of the Raja of Benares as a State under the suzerainty of the King-Emperor to be held by Your Highness and your successors as ruling Chiefs of the State of Benares. The tracts that have been included in this State will comprise the parganas of Bhadohi and Kera Mangraur of the family domain, together with the fort of Ramnagar and its appurtenances. The pargana of Kaswar Raja will, for administrative reasons, be treated in future as part of British India. Your Highness's administration of the State so conferred will be subject to certain restrictions and conditions which are necessary for safeguarding to the residents of those territories the rights and privileges they

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*State Banquet at Benares.*

have enjoyed under the British administration, and the Agent to the Lieutenant-Governor will be ready at all times to assist and advise Your Highness.

Subject to such conditions and restrictions Your Highness and your successors will have full powers of administration in the State of Benares. Your Highness, I rejoice to make this announcement to-night, not only because the distinguished services of your family have deserved well of the British Raj, but because I know that the Government of India can look to you for a wise, considerate and loyal administration of the affairs of your State.

As Your Highness has said, India has of late years passed through troublous times, in which, as head of the Government, it has been my earnest endeavour to preserve the peace of the country, and to further the happiness of the people. It is in that direction that the assistance and co-operation of ruling Chiefs must always be invaluable to the Government of India. I know full well that your support will never be sought in vain, and I congratulate you on the recognition you have so well deserved. I thank Your Highness for your appreciation of Lady Minto's interest in the Lady Dufferin Fund and her organization of a nursing service, the necessity for which has been so much felt in India.

We, Lady Minto and I, will always remember your generous hospitality and our visit to this beautiful city. We only wish we had more time at our disposal to make ourselves acquainted with its many unique and historical attractions. I now ask you, ladies and gentlemen, to join with me in drinking to the health of our distinguished host, His Highness the Maharaja of Benares.

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### VISIT TO, AND ADDRESS FROM, THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, BENARES.

11th Nov. 1910. [During the Viceroy's stay in Benares His Excellency paid a visit to the Queen's College. On arrival the Viceregal party were received by the Principal (Mr. Venis) and the College staff. Their Excellencies went over the College and expressed much admiration for the architect's handiwork. A visit was paid to, among other things, the present library, which is soon to be superseded by a new and thoroughly up-to-date building, fast approaching completion, that owes its inauguration mainly to the generosity of Raja Madho Lal, C.S.I.

After inspecting the College buildings His Excellency received a poetical address in Sanskrit from the professors of the College, the poem being read by Pundit Mahamahopadya Gungar dar Shastri.

The following is a rough translation of the sonorous address :—

" May His Excellency, Lord Minto, Viceroy of India, representative of our glorious Emperor George V, live long and happily along with his beloved consort. Under his gracious patronage education has been fostered, and knowledge widely diffused for the benefit of the Indian community. For over a hundred years the Government Sanskrit College has been renowned not only throughout India, but also in countries beyond its borders, as an educational centre where the most expert teaching in Sanskrit lore is to be found. With the help of such additional resources as the new library (the Sarasvati Bhavana) it is hoped that its fame will go on increasing. In grateful recognition, we, the professors of the Sanskrit College, beg to present to His Excellency this short poetical address and to express our heartfelt joy at the honour that has been conferred on us by his visit."

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Mr. Venis and Pundits of the Sanskrit College*,—I thank you for the cordial reception you have extended to me to-day. I wish there was more time at my disposal to acquaint myself with your interesting institution.

I consider myself greatly privileged at being afforded this opportunity of meeting those who are devoted to learning for learning's sake alone, and who are handing on the torch of ancient erudition from generation to generation. I cannot claim to be a Sanskrit scholar. I can only marvel at the beauties of that wonderful language with the help of translation. But I realize the great work

*Visit to, and Address from, the Central Hindu College at Benares.*

you have before you—the perpetuation of your ancient literature in conjunction with the modern scholarship of the West, and I hope that the success which has brought such credit on this College will always continue to crown your efforts.

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### VISIT TO, AND ADDRESS FROM, THE CENTRAL HINDU COLLEGE AT BENARES.

[After leaving Queen's College Their Excellencies proceeded 11th Nov. 1910. through the city to the Central Hindu College, where they were received by Mrs. Annie Besant, who presented to Their Excellencies the Principal and the members of the College staff. On going into the main hall Their Excellencies were escorted to seats on a dais at one end of the hall. A hymn of welcome and a Sanskrit poem, recited by members of the College staff, were the next items on the programme, after which Mrs. Besant read out the following address on behalf of the College trustees:—"It is with feelings of respect and gladness that we to-day welcome to this place Your Excellency, the august representative of the Imperial Crown, the wielder of supreme power over the destinies of our nation; though our gladness is mingled with regret that you, to whom India owes so much, are leaving the land that you have so nobly served. Happy for us is the augury of your presence, the happier that beside you is the gentle and noble lady who has shown a tender pity for the suffering poor and a gracious social courtesy to the highly placed of our land. We pray you to accept our welcome as a parent the welcome of his children.

"This place was founded in 1898, with the well-defined object of training the sons of Hindus in their ancestral religion and in the morality based thereon, while giving to them the Western education necessary for the times. The ancient classical language of India, Sanskrit, is here taught to every student. On the English side, Sanskrit is the second language, and it has also its own department, the Patshala, placed in it by His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir and Jammu, who from the beginning has been one of our strongest and most liberal supporters. Physical education is vigorously carried on and our lads meet on equal terms teams from the British and Indian soldiers quartered here, as well as from the Police, but above

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*Visit to, and Address from, the Central Hindu College at Benares.*

and beyond all we seek to build up a Hindu aristocracy of cultured, courteous, brave, truthful in word and deed, public-spirited citizens, patriotic to the Motherland, and loyal to the Imperial Crown.

"It is our dearest hope to send forth from this place men worthy of their glorious past; men worthy to build a yet greater future; men worthy to be citizens in an Empire of the Free. In this effort some of India's noblest children are working. His Highness the Maharaja of Benares gave the land on which we stand and the building which forms the hall and shelters the Patshala. Many of India's ruling Princes are our patrons and subscribers; Judges and high public servants lend us their help; the laboratories were built by two wealthy Bombay merchants; and the hall bears the name of an Indian student accidentally killed in London who left the money for it. Every schoolroom, every room in the boarding house bears the name of a generous donor, and the heads of departments, the chief officials, are all voluntary workers.

"Your Excellency stands on ground and is surrounded by buildings and by men and women that all symbolise sacrifices made for India, and who are trying to light the hearts of these youths and raise a flame of worship for the Motherland and reverence for the King.

"We stand apart from Government aid because we believe that what India most needs to-day is an example of self-help—of voluntary work and unrewarded supervision brought out by the hands of Indians and English working as brothers and not as rulers and ruled. Some of us have during the last two years successfully sought to turn into channels, beneficial alike to the Motherland and the Empire, the awakening energies of the student population by grouping them with sober and reliable citizens who guide them in what is useful and gently withhold them from what is pernicious. We have to thank Your Excellency for the goodwill you have shown to our Order of the Sons of India, and for the wise advice you gave us at the beginning of our work.

"Your Excellency is leaving our shores and is carrying away with you the love of a nation you have loved and served. It is not for us here to speak of the political side of your great Viceroyalty, but we may speak of our gratitude for the high example you have set before our youths of public duty faithfully discharged, of flawless courage in the face of danger, and strenuous endeavour to follow righteousness and justice; for such examples inspire youth and bind together the hearts of nations. May love and gratitude follow you from our shores, and love and gratitude welcome you in your native land. Perhaps under greyer, colder skies you may think with some touch of gentle regret of our Indian land, and may

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*Visit to, and Address from, the Central Hindu College at Benares.*

remember that in the Central Hindu College there are some who will not let your memory die."

Lord Minto replied as follows, his speech being loudly applauded all through :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I cannot but be deeply touched by the reception you have extended to me to-day. You have offered me a welcome and a farewell in sympathetic words which I shall never forget. You may be sure Lady Minto and I will always remember the kindly appreciation you have expressed towards us this morning. I have often told you, Mrs. Besant, that I looked forward some day to visiting the Central Hindu College. I am afraid I have told you so often that you may have begun to doubt the reliability of my intentions. I have, however, appeared at last, and I can assure you I am very glad to be here, and to see for myself the great work which owes so much to your energy and genius.

The College was founded only twelve years ago. Like many other great undertakings it originated from small beginnings, and, if I may say so, I believe that its youthful energy and the very spirit of its existence have been nourished by the fact of its inauguration having been, as you say in your address, an example of self-help, the successful efforts of a small knot of Indians and Englishmen to meet without Government assistance what they believed to be a pressing want of the youth of this country.

During the last twelve years the College has grown into the great institution of to-day, and though naturally its increasing popularity demands an addition to its funds, which I hope will be forthcoming, I am convinced that the spontaneous effort to which it owes its origin will continue to strengthen the value of the maxims its founders originally laid down. What those maxims are were clearly set forth in Mrs. Besant's address at the commencement of this year. I understand them to be that religious and moral training should go hand in hand with ordinary secular education,



*Visit to, and Address from, the Central Hindu College at Benares.*

that good citizenship depends upon the formation of character in early youth, that patriotism and love of country should be the foundation of good citizenship, culminating in a devoted loyalty to the King-Emperor.

It is upon lines such as these, and they are very noble lines, that Mrs. Besant maintains that the youth of the country should be educated. And she claims, too, that the observance of those lines has already preserved peace amongst the students of this College, which has been markedly absent at some other centres of learning. No one believes more than I do in the inestimable value of the tenets to which I have referred. I hope that the Hindu College, with strict regard for them, may successfully continue to mould the youth of India. It is strength of character based upon religious and moral training that produces men fit to fight the battle of life. It is the manly, chivalrous, self-reliant student that will do honour to your College, and I believe that if the lines laid down by your president are followed, your dearest hope will be fulfilled, and that you will send forth men worthy to maintain the traditions of the glorious Empire of which all British subjects are citizens.

I hope that the College will continue to receive all the help it has so well deserved. I hope that the eloquence and the brilliant and generous impulses of its president may long continue to inspire the life of its students and further their future success in the world's arena. I can only tell you again, Mrs. Besant and Gentlemen, how glad I am to have been here to-day. Lady Minto and I, when we have exchanged the suns of India for the hills of our Scottish home, will often think of our visit to the Central Hindu College, and will never forget the very kind words we have listened to from you.

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FAREWELL ADDRESSES FROM BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION, BENGAL LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION, BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION, IMPERIAL LEAGUE, MAHOMMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY, CENTRAL NATIONAL MAHOMMEDAN ASSOCIATION, AND TALUKDARS OF OUDH.

[Deputations from the above Societies and Associations waited on 15th Nov. 1910. His Excellency the Viceroy on the morning of Tuesday the 15th November and presented farewell addresses.

His Excellency replied to each deputation in turn as follows :—]

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

*Gentlemen*,—It is very gratifying to me at the close of my term of office to listen to the kind and appreciative words you have addressed to me, and to the references you have made to the services of my distinguished ancestor as well as to my own.

It is nearly five years since you welcomed me to Calcutta, and you now remind me that they have been years of much political difficulty and anxiety—anxieties in which you, as the representatives of the land-owning class, with your great stake in the country, have actively shared,—and you gratefully recognise the constitutional reforms which have been inaugurated during my administration. It is my earnest hope that by the increased representation they afford to Indian public opinion they may continue to contribute to the welfare of the people and the peace of the country.

You, Gentlemen, as the spokesmen of a great community, can do much to assure both the political and material prosperity of India, and though I am about to leave her shores I can assure you I shall never be parted from a sincere interest in her happiness, which I have had so much at heart during the five strenuous but happy years I have spent amongst you.

I thank you sincerely, Gentlemen, for your address.

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*Farewell Addresses from Bengal Landholders' Association and Behar Landholders' Association.*

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## ADDRESS FROM THE BENGAL LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

*Gentlemen*,—The last time I received an address from your Association was very shortly after my arrival in India, and you now come to wish me farewell.

I thank you very cordially for your kind words. We have, as you say, passed through times of great difficulty since I first met you, and I am grateful for the appreciation you have expressed of my endeavours to combat the agitation which confronted the Government of India.

As a landholder myself I can share with you in your many anxieties. I have always been anxious to strengthen your status as representatives of a powerful community whose interests are to a great extent identical with those of the majority of the population. I hope that your Association may continue to flourish and to further the objects you have in view.

I thank you, Gentlemen, on behalf of Lady Minto for all you have so gracefully said of her, and I assure you we shall carry away with us very warm recollections of your farewell words.

## BEHAR LANDHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you for the appreciative words you have addressed to me to-day. It has been very encouraging to listen to them on the eve of my departure from India, emanating as they do from an Association of long standing and great weight, and which is entitled to speak for the aristocracy, the middle classes, and the masses, of the people of Behar.

It is nearly five years since I received an address of welcome from you at Bankipore, when I ventured to impress upon you the identity of interests of landlord and tenant which you represent. It is that common interest which attaches so much value to the aims of your Association and

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*Farewell Address from Imperial League.*

to the opinions which you hold. I therefore heartily welcome your recognition of the beneficial effects of recent constitutional reforms. The last five years have, as you say, "been momentous in the history of India." They have been full of many anxieties and difficulties, and you may well be proud that through them all Behar has been true to its traditions of loyalty and devotion to the Throne.

I thank you warmly, Gentlemen, for your reference to the services I have endeavoured to render in these stormy years. I thank you too on behalf of Lady Minto for all you have said of her interest in the welfare of Indian women. You may be sure we shall always cherish a sincere affection for the people of India and will never forget the kind words of your farewell.

IMPERIAL LEAGUE.

*Gentlemen,*—This is, I believe, the first occasion on which I have had the pleasure of receiving an address from your Association, and you now come to wish me good-bye.

I thank you for the appreciation of my administration you have so cordially expressed, and I am glad to have this opportunity of meeting you before I leave India, because I very heartily recognise the immense value of the objects your Association has in view.

Its membership includes a numerous and influential section of the land-owning classes in Bengal, who have a real stake in the country, and the spirit of the movement they represent furnishes invaluable evidence of their determination to disseminate feelings of loyalty to the British Government, to denounce crime and sedition and to encourage the people to co-operate actively in its detection.

Such being the objects you have in view, I have always been anxious to further the interests of your Association, and I sincerely hope that you may during the future receive the support of all right-minded subjects of the King-Emperor.

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*Farewell Addresses from Mahommedan Literary Society and Central National Mahommedan Association.*

I shall look forward, Gentlemen, to hearing of the continued success of your efforts, and I cannot sufficiently thank you for the kind farewell you have extended to me to-day.

MAHOMMEDAN LITERARY SOCIETY.

*Gentlemen*,—It seems difficult to realise that five years have passed since you welcomed me to India in this hall. Those years have been full of political incident, and I thank you sincerely for the appreciation you express of the policy of my administration.

The Mahommedan Literary Society of Calcutta is the oldest Mahommedan Association in India, and I fully recognise the excellent work it has performed since its inauguration by Nawab Bahadur Abdul Latif. Your Society does not, I know, Gentlemen, take any part in political strife, but it has done much, by its efforts to elevate the standard of Mahommedan learning, to fit the rising generation of your community to take their share in the public affairs of their country. Your influence for good has been very great in that direction, and I congratulate you upon the success of your efforts.

I thank you, Gentlemen, on behalf of Lady Minto for the warm acknowledgments of her work which you convey to her from the Mahommedan community. We are both heartily grateful to you for the words you have so gracefully addressed to both of us. We will always remember the friendliness of your farewell, and will, I assure you, never lose our interest in the welfare of India.

CENTRAL NATIONAL MAHOMMEDAN ASSOCIATION.

*Gentlemen*,—I thank you sincerely for your address and your cordial appreciation of my endeavours to preserve and further the interests of India during the last five years.

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*Farewell Address from Talukdars of Oudh.*

Your Association was founded 33 years ago by the Hon'ble Syed Amir Ali with the object of promoting the well-being of the Mussalmans of India. But whilst safeguarding your own Mahommedan interests it seeks to work in harmony with Western culture and modern progressive tendencies, with the strictest regard for a loyal adherence to the British Crown.

Your Association has done much to promote the welfare of your community—a community whose faithful services have so fully deserved recognition.

I thank you sincerely for all you have said of Lady Minto as well as of myself on behalf of your Mahommedan fellow-countrymen, and we shall carry away with us very warm recollections of the sympathetic farewell you have extended to us to-day.

TALUKDARS OF OUDH.

*Gentlemen*,—I warmly thank you for your expressions of regret on my departure from India.

In the last few years the Talukdars of Oudh have several times presented me with addresses which have been very welcome to me, and I well remember the last occasion on which they did so at Lucknow in 1908, when the political atmosphere was heavy with warning clouds, when I felt how thoroughly I could trust to your devoted loyalty and strong support, and how much the Government of India already owed to your determined resistance to the preachings of sedition in Northern India. As great landowners, whose administration of their estates has very fully justified their inheritance of large possessions, you must always constitute a powerful factor in the government of your country, and I rejoice to hear your approval of the Council reforms for which I have laboured during my term of office. I hope they will contribute to dispel the unfortunate agitation of the last few years, and that India will settle down again to reap the results of peace and plenty.

*Farewell Dinner at the Turf Club.*

As a fellow-landowner I wish you every prosperity in coming years, and shall look forward to hearing of the welfare of your estates. I shall always value your appreciation of my services, and remember the support I could so fully rely upon in times of difficulty, and shall never forget the warmth of your farewell to myself and to Lady Minto.

## FAREWELL DINNER AT THE CALCUTTA TURF CLUB.

16th Nov. 1910. [His Excellency the Viceroy was entertained to dinner by the Turf Club in the Paddock at the Racecourse last night. The grounds and the Grand Stand had been beautifully decorated for the occasion by Messrs. Walter Locke & Co., under the supervision of their chief electrical engineer, Mr. Edward Vickers, and presented a very beautiful appearance.

After dinner, Mr. Dudley Myers, who presided in the absence of the Senior Steward, Mr. A. A. Apcar, proposed the health of His Excellency. He said :—

*"Your Excellency, Your Honour and Gentlemen,*—Owing to the very sad and regrettable illness of our Senior Steward Mr. Apcar, whose absence to-night we all deplore, I have been placed in the highly honourable position of presiding at this dinner. In proposing to you the toast of the evening, I am fully conscious that I am being called upon to perform a task to which I am in no way qualified to do justice, and I would therefore crave His Excellency's and your indulgence if in my treatment of my subject I fail to prove myself equal to the honour which the accident of circumstances has imposed upon me.

"I have noticed that at complimentary dinners to His Excellency allusion has frequently been made to his triple attributes of soldier, statesman and sportsman, but it is only in the last capacity that the members of the Calcutta Turf Club have felt it to be within their province to express the wish that they held, that they might be allowed the privilege of entertaining Lord Minto prior to his departure from India, in order to testify to him, as a lifelong patron and active supporter of the Turf, their sense of appreciation of the kindly interest and sympathetic assistance that he has extended to all matters connected with racing in Calcutta. His Excellency has shown him-

*Farewell Dinner at the Turf Club.*

self ever ready and anxious to promote in any way the true interests of sport and I believe that I am correct in saying that he is the first Viceroy who has, during his period of office, owned and run horses in this country in his own name, a precedent which it is to be hoped may be followed in the years to come, seeing that there can be no distinction between the sport of Kings and the sport of Viceroys and that nothing is calculated to establish better and more cordial relations between the powers that be and the general public than the active interest displayed by the supreme authority in local sporting events. It is indeed this very community of interests that has made it possible for the Calcutta Turf Club to aspire to the present honour of entertaining one of the best sportsmen of all times in the person of the retiring Viceroy of India.

"Lord Minto's early racing and riding achievements are such well-known matters of history that I will do no more than lightly touch upon them, avoiding all well-worn reminiscences. Under the *nom de course* of 'Mr. Rolly,' His Excellency was one of the foremost G. R.'s of his day, figuring more between the flags than on the flat, and his riding career constitutes, in the annals of racing, a chapter of the boldest and most finished horsemanship, extending over a long period of years. No man in India can show a record in any way approaching that of His Excellency who, among his innumerable feats, can tell of no fewer than four hard rides in the Grand National and of the winning of the French Grand National at Auteuil on his own mare, he being the only gentleman rider in the race pitted against seventeen professionals. Time will not permit of my pursuing the subject further, but His Excellency's exploits occupy and will ever occupy a leading place in the chronicles of Turf history.

"Before drawing my remarks to a close, I would express on behalf of the Calcutta Turf Club and of the sporting community generally the appreciation that has been felt at the great interest that has always been shown by the ladies of His Excellency's family in our sporting events. Her Excellency Lady Minto and her fair daughters have not only been constant and regular attendants at our race meetings, but have strongly supported our local paperchases, their pluck and their prowess in the saddle and the zest with which they have entered into our sports endearing them to one and all.

"In conclusion I would fain make the only reference to Lord Minto's Vicerealty, in its purely personal aspect, which the present occasion permits of, when I venture to remark that the past five years have provided His Excellency with the most difficult course over which



*Farewell Dinner at the Turf Club.*

he has ever been asked to ride. True to his traditions he has picked his own line of country, regardless of the size of the obstacles to be negotiated and heedless of the personal risks involved : as he passes the judge's box our hearts go out to him and we acclaim the man who has ridden the race of his life, with his head, with his heart and with his hands, the man whom no obstacle has proved sufficiently formidable to divert from the line he had mapped out for himself, the man who has ridden from start to finish as straight as a die.

"Gentlemen, we bid their Excellencies Lord and Lady Minto and their daughter, Lady Eileen Elliot, God-speed. We pray that they may have a safe and prosperous return to the old country and that they may be blessed with many years of unbroken health, happiness and prosperity wherein to enjoy their favourite sports and pastimes. In the Calcutta sporting circles for which I speak, their names will long be respectfully and affectionately remembered. Gentlemen, I give you the health of His Excellency the Earl of Minto."

His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen*,—I am quite at a loss to find words in which to thank you for the reception you have given to the toast of my health—which Mr. Dudley Myers has proposed, with so many kindly references to myself, and to my racing days. Certainly I, at any rate, could have wished for no better Chairman, though I cannot say how sorry I am that my oldest friend on the Calcutta Turf, and your Senior Steward, Mr. Apcar, is not here to-night. I earnestly hope you will soon see him again in the Stewards' Stand enjoying another of his many triumphs.

I cannot tell you, Gentlemen, how touched I am—I can find no other expression—by your invitation to this great gathering. I cannot but feel that it is your welcome and your farewell to a fellow sportsman—that I am not here to-night as Viceroy, soldier or statesman—but may I say so—as the Mr. Rōly of old days, or Mr. Rolly as the ring would persist in calling him. Well, Gentlemen, Mr. Rolly saw in his time many races, many racecourses and many stewards, whom no doubt he held in proper awe and respect as a poor G. R. is bound to do, but he can honestly say that he never saw racing conducted on sounder lines or

*Farewell Dinner at the Turf Club.*

with anything like the comfort provided for race-goers than that provided by the Calcutta Turf Club. I wish it had been in my power to do more in their support. There is nothing I should have liked better than to have run a good horse in the Viceroy's Cup, but I have long lost touch with the racing world at home, and you, Gentlemen, will realize how difficult it is for a stranger just out from England to step into racing circles in another country, and pick up all the threads of that knowledge of "form" which leads to success, particularly when that stranger is provided with not a few other things to think about. I assure you "Mr. Rolly" in his other capacity has, during the last few years, often found himself so weighed down with work, that he has only been able to run up to the course in time to see the horses saddling for the last race of the day.

I do not regret my racing days, Gentlemen. Very far from it. I learned a great deal from them which has been useful to me in later life. I mixed with all classes of men. I believe I got much insight into human character. You may think it strange, but I never used to bet, though I was on intimate terms with the ring—and as far as riding went I became absolutely callous as to public opinion—if I won there was often no name good enough for me, and when I got beat on the favourite it was Mr. Rolly of course who threw the race away.

But talking of a jockey's popularity I must tell you a story which I am sure will appeal to the heart of G. R.'s and teach them not to be oversanguine even on the best of mounts. I was once riding in the big Steeplechase at Croydon, which in those days was second only to the Grand National in importance. I had won several races on the horse I was riding and we thought if he did well at Croydon he ought to have a chance for the Liverpool—and he was very heavily backed—but he was an uncertain horse; one could never quite depend on his trying. However, the money was piled on and it was considered that if he was

*Farewell Dinner at the Turf Club.*

going well at the brook opposite the Stand, the second time round, he could be relied upon, and if I thought it all right I was to make a signal on jumping the water and further sums were to be dashed down in the ring. Well, the horse was going splendidly, raced up to the brook, jumped it magnificently—couldn't have been running better. I made the signal and on went the money, but after the brook we had to turn away from the crowd, and he put his ears back and never tried another yard,—never went into his bridle again—I was not popular that time when I rode back to weigh in.

Well, Gentlemen, I learned to keep my head, to sit still, to watch what other jockeys were doing and to be a good judge of pace. The orders I liked best were "get off well" and "wait in front."

I suppose no one here is old enough to remember poor George Ede, who rode under the name of Mr. Edwards, one of the finest horsemen the world has ever produced; he won the Grand National on "the Lamb," and was afterwards killed riding a horse called "Chippenham" in the Sefton Handicap at Liverpool, and a poem dedicated to him was published in Bayley's Magazine. If you will allow me I will quote two verses, if I can remember them—to my mind they are very fine lines typical of what a really fine rider should be :

A horseman's gifts, the perfect hand  
And graceful seat of confidence.  
The head to reckon and command  
When danger stills the coward's sense.  
The nerve unshaken by mischance,  
The care unlessened by success.  
And modest bearing to enhance  
The natural charm of manliness.

*Gentlemen*, -you have surrounded me with the old atmosphere again, and have got me to talk racing. You have brought back to me happy old memories and stories

*Farewell Dinner at the Turf Club.*

which I could go on telling by the hour—and seriously, Gentlemen, the lessons of the Turf need not be thrown away in after life. The lines to George Ede, and the old racing instruction “Wait in front,” mean much in this world’s struggles: don’t force the pace, lie up with your field, keep a winning place, watch your opportunity, and when the moment comes, go on and win.

You have kindly invited me to an assemblage of sportsmen, and I am sure you will believe me when I tell you, that I have no wish to wander into the demesne of public affairs. I will only say that I have done my best to ride a good race—and it has not been an easy one. But your Chairman has said one thing to which I must refer, he has spoken of the opportunity sport affords for the encouragement of cordial relations between the powers that be and the general public. I do most thoroughly agree with him. On the racecourse we all meet as fellow sportsmen—official trammels go to the wall—affairs of State do not penetrate into the paddock—if they ever did, I should take refuge in the weighing room!—And, Gentlemen, I cannot sufficiently thank you to-night not only for the magnificent banquet to which you have bidden me, but for the opportunity you have given me of saying good-bye to the many Calcutta friends who have contributed so much to the happiness of our surroundings here during the last five years, and I must heartily thank the Calcutta Turf Club for all that their Chairman has said of Lady Minto and our daughters. They will be proud to know that you recognize them as good sportswomen.

And now that the time has come for us to go home, it is with a very bitter pang that we shall say good-bye to India and our friends here. We shall never forget them or the sports we have shared with them—and I shall cherish very warm recollections of the magnificent reception to which the Calcutta Turf Club has invited me to-night on their historic racecourse.

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*Farewell Review of Troops, Calcutta.*

[Shortly before half past nine the company adjourned to the grounds where they were joined by a large number of other guests who had been invited to the reception. The Grand Stand and other buildings had been beautifully illuminated with electric lights and hundreds of coloured lights in the trees helped to make the whole scene charming in effect. The bands of the Rifles and the 27th Punjabis discoursed selections of music. Tetrazini records were given on a monster gramophone, some jugglers and acrobats gave a performance which was witnessed by a large audience and the Elphinstone Bioscope Company exhibited a series of most interesting films, which evidently greatly pleased Their Excellencies, as it did also the other guests. Afterwards the Viceroy, Lady Minto and Lady Eileen Elliott promenaded the grounds, and finally shortly before twelve the massed bands played "For Auld Lang Syne," the whole company joining heartily in the singing while grouped round the Viceregal party. The scene was a most impressive one and concluded with loud cheers for Lord and Lady Minto and Lady Eileen, called for by Mr. Dudley Myers. Both the Viceroy and Lady Minto were evidently greatly touched by the warmth of the display and cordially bowed their acknowledgments as they took their departure.

Among those who were present were the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and Lady Baker, Sir O'Moore Creagh and everyone of note in official and mercantile circles.]

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**FAREWELL REVIEW OF TROOPS, CALCUTTA.**

16th Nov. 1910.

[A wonderfully impressive spectacle was the farewell review of troops held by His Excellency Lord Minto on the Maidan yesterday morning. Parades of large numbers of troops are not unfamiliar sights in Calcutta, but they are seldom on such a big scale as was yesterday's and being confined, as they mostly are, to the formal inspection and march past, they have lost something of their interests.

This being the case, it was well that the final review held by Lord Minto before his departure from India should be not only on a very much larger scale than the proclamation parades held on the morning of each New Year's Day, but that it should be generally a much more elaborate function, and should include features which are missing from the annual parade. Altogether there must have been quite ten thousand troops on parade, and the music of half-a-dozen military bands enlivened the proceedings.

*Farewell Review of Troops, Calcutta.*

The parade ground was lined with a very large number of spectators when, shortly after 8 o'clock, Her Excellency Lady Minto with Col. Crooke-Lawless, drove up to the enclosure in the State carriage with outriders and postillions. Shortly afterwards His Excellency the Viceroy, mounted on a grey charger, rode along the parade ground, accompanied by the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir O'Moore Creagh, and Staff—amongst whom were Major-General B. T. Mahon, C.B., D.S.O., G. O. C., 8th (Lucknow) Division, Major C. O. Swanston, D.S.O., General Staff, Capt. W. S. Brancker, Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quarter-Master-General; Captain F. W. Barrett, 15th Hussars, A.-D.-C.; Risaldar Kartar Singh, 12th Cavalry, Orderly Officer, together with officers of the Viceroy's and Commander-in-Chief's personal staffs.

As the Viceroy galloped up, a salute was fired from the Fort, and the opening bars of the National Anthem were played.

The troops were drawn out in a line about a mile long, and His Excellency first of all galloped along the line, accompanied by General Sir O'Moore Creagh and staff. The formal inspection over, Lord Minto returned to the flag-staff, and the march past began. First of all came the band of the 11th Hussars, mounted on grey horses, the regimental drum horse marching proudly a few paces in front. The Cavalry Brigade, under the command of Col. E. C. Apostolides, A.-D.-C., V.D., of the Calcutta Light Horse, with Major A. H. O. Spence, of the Central India Horse, as Brigade Major led the parade. The "Y" battery, Royal Horse Artillery, with guns made a fine sight as they slowly marched past. Horses and men looked particularly fine; notably the detachment mounted on greys. They were followed by the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars, the Calcutta Light Horse, the Viceroy's Bodyguard, and the 16th Cavalry.

The second brigade was composed of the 74th Battery, Royal Field Artillery, under the command of Major S. S. Browne; and the Calcutta Port Defence Naval and Artillery Volunteers, commanded by Commander E. A. Constable, Royal Navy. The Naval Division of the Port Defence Volunteers looked very business-like in their seamen's uniforms, with their guns, and the Artillery section also had out six guns.

**THE INFANTRY BRIGADES.**

Two Infantry Brigades concluded the parade. The first was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel W. T. Grice, 1st Battalion, Calcutta Volunteer Rifles, with Captain F. I. Day, Middlesex Regiment, as Brigade Major, and the troops composing it were the 2nd Battalion, Royal West Kent Regiment, the 2nd Battery, King's Shropshire

*Farewell Review of Troops, Calcutta.*

Light Infantry, the 1st and 2nd Battalions, Calcutta Volunteer Rifles, and detachments of the East Indian Railway Volunteers and the Eastern Bengal State Railway Volunteers.

The second Infantry Battalion was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. O'Bryen, 27th Punjabis, with Lieutenant G. V. Heriz Smith, 27th Punjabis, as Brigade Major. It was composed wholly of regular troops, and mostly of native infantry—the 66th Punjabis, the 88th Carnatic Infantry, and the 27th Punjabis. The 2nd Battalion, Rifle Brigade, marched last.

*A MOVING PICTURE.*

The actual march past occupied the best part of an hour, but, judging by the applause as each different company or regiment came along, the spectators did not find the time too long. They found something to admire in every section. The splendid order kept by the cavalry; the fine riding of the Field Artillerymen, with their heavy horses and guns; the martial stride of the infantry—not forgetting the Volunteers, who played no inconspicuous part in the spectacle—all these things were noted, admired and applauded. The march past was a veritable kaleidoscope of colour, and, heightened as it was by the glittering uniforms, medals and orders of His Excellency and staff, picturesquely grouped about the flag, made up a moving picture; a sight to stir the blood.

When the troops had all marched past there came an unexpected but very much appreciated interlude. The cavalry had, during the time the infantry were saluting, circled the parade ground, and at the given signal they came past the saluting base at a trot. At the end of the ground they reversed, and came down the line at the gallop. The Royal Horse Artillery came first, galloping for all the horses and men were worth, the guns lumbering behind; then the Hussars, the Calcutta Light Horse, and the Bodyguard. It was a very fine sight to watch, and created great enthusiasm amongst the spectators.

Unfortunately an accident which might have had very serious consequences, occurred during the gallop past of the Bodyguard. One of the horses caught its foot in a hole in the ground and came down, throwing its rider heavily. The man behind could not get out of the way, and his horse also fell. Another detachment was coming on behind at too fast a pace to pull up, but fortunately the two men managed to get clear of the line, and the horses galloped on riderless with the next troop. Neither of the two men were badly hurt—and their chief anxiety when they got outside the ropes was about their horses.

*Farewell Review of Troops, Calcutta.*

After this, the massed bands of the 8th Hussars, the Rifle Brigade, the Shropshires, the West Kents, the Punjabis, and the Calcutta Volunteer Rifles played the National Anthem, the troops standing at the salute and the spectators with bared heads the while.

**PRESENTATION OF VOLUNTEER MEDALS.**

Then the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief and staff rode to the centre of the parade ground, the troops forming three parts of a square round them. Here a number of medals and decorations were presented to volunteers by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

The Viceroy then addressed the officers. He said :—]

*Your Excellency, General Mahon, Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and Men,*—I am very glad to have this opportunity before leaving India of seeing such a fine force on parade thoroughly representative of the British and Indian Army, and I congratulate you on the smartness with which every movement has been executed, and upon the evident efficiency and soldierly bearing of all ranks.

Since I have been in India I have of necessity often made heavy demands for innumerable escorts and guards-of-honour, which it has always been a pleasure to me to inspect, and of whose services I now express my sincere appreciation ; and though during my term of office there has been no great war, I can nevertheless congratulate the Army upon its distinguished services in two frontier expeditions, in which British and Indian soldiers did much to prove the value of their training and the excellence of the material of which they are composed.

This is the last occasion upon which I shall see troops on parade in India, and I cannot but say that it has revived the memories of service in the field in years gone by and the wish that it could all come over again, and I bid farewell to the Army, with all the affection I have always felt for it, knowing full well that it will for ever uphold the glorious traditions it has inherited.

[Three hearty cheers were given for His Excellency ; and this concluded the proceedings, the troops then marching away to their respective head-quarters.]



### ADDRESS FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE MYSORE FAMILY.

18th Nov. 1910. [The members of the Mysore family presented a farewell address which the Viceroy received at Government House on 18th November. His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I am glad to have this opportunity of receiving the members of the Mysore family, and sincerely thank you for your address. You have many reasons to be proud of the deeds of your ancestors, and it has been a great satisfaction to me to do what I could to further the principles enunciated by the first Lord Minto, and to assist to contribute, as far as has been in my power, to the comfort of the descendants of Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan.

I am grateful for your recognition of my public services and for your appreciation of the administrative reforms which have been inaugurated during my term of office, which I earnestly hope may continue to contribute to the happiness and peace of India. I shall never lose sight of her interests. I shall always remember, Gentlemen, the good wishes you have expressed for my future prosperity and the cordiality of your farewell to me.

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### FAREWELL ADDRESS FROM THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

18th Nov. 1910. [A deputation from the Calcutta Corporation waited on the Viceroy at Government House on the morning of the 18th November, when a farewell address was presented to His Excellency by the Chairman, the Hon'ble Mr. F. L. Maddox, His Excellency in reply spoke as follows :—]

*Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen*,—It is very gratifying to me at the close of my term of office to listen to the words you have addressed to me. I value your recognition of my services all the more as emanating from the leading

*Farewell Address from the Calcutta Municipal Corporation.*

citizens of Calcutta, who with their intimate knowledge of Indian surroundings are so well able to judge of the value of the administrative reforms, the introduction of which has been the great labour of my administration.

The Corporation of Calcutta has, as you say, no direct relations with the Government of India, but I fully recognise the prestige and importance that must always appertain to the Capital of the Indian Empire. I thoroughly sympathise with you in your endeavours to develop its municipal government to meet the many necessities of its huge population, and to contribute to the further embellishment of your beautiful city. I rejoice with you therefore, Gentlemen, that the Calcutta Improvement Bill is at last in a fair way to become law.

I thank you on Lady Minto's behalf for all you have said of her. She will immensely value your appreciation of the interests she has had so much at heart. I know there could be no greater pleasure to her than to believe that the work which she has attempted to encourage or to inaugurate might assist to confer some lasting benefit upon the people of this country.

You have referred, Gentlemen, to the public services of my family and of my ancestor, the first Lord Minto, and as citizens of Calcutta, I think it may not be uninteresting to you to know that my children represent the fifth generation of my clan who have inhabited this Government House. My great-grandfather came to India soon after it had been completed by Lord Wellesley. His son, who was already a Writer in the service of the Company, became his Private Secretary. He married in India and his children were the little playmates of the Governor-General. I represent the fourth generation of Elliots and my children, as I have told you, the fifth. It is a somewhat curious connection which really almost seems to entitle the family to your fellow-citizenship!

At any rate, Gentlemen, Lady Minto and I will not forget

*Address from the Anglo-Indian Association.*

the friendship Calcutta has always extended to us. We shall look back on our years amongst you with many warm feelings, and we shall part from our friends here with a very bitter pang and will never forget the warmth of their farewells.

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## ADDRESS FROM THE ANGLO-INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

18th Nov. 1910. [The Anglo-Indian Association presented a farewell address to the Viceroy on the 18th November, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I am very glad to hear from you, as the representatives of the Anglo-Indian Association, of the improvement in the position of the domiciled community due to the enlargement of the Viceregal Legislative Council, on which Mr. Madge now represents your community with marked ability—a representative to whom I know you can well entrust the interests you have at heart, and I sincerely thank you, Gentlemen, for your appreciation of the constitutional reforms introduced during my term of office.

I assure you I shall never lose interest in the affairs of this great country, and I wish every success to the objects your Association has in view.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for the sympathetic hopes you have expressed as to my future career, for your good wishes to Lady Minto and my family, and for the cordial words of your farewell on our departure from India.

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## DINNER AT THE CALCUTTA CLUB.

[The Calcutta Club entertained His Excellency the Viceroy to 18th Nov. 1910. dinner and a reception on the night of the 18th November. This was the last of a series of farewell entertainments and was a brilliant success. The grounds were beautifully illuminated. Covers were laid for 140. After the toast of the Viceroy was duly honoured the Hon'ble Mr. S. P. Sinha, the Chairman, addressed His Excellency as follows :—

“ I am deeply sensible of the great honour which the Committee of the Calcutta Club has done me in asking me to propose the toast of the evening—the health of His Excellency the Viceroy. I value it specially by reason of certain personal considerations, of which I will mention only two. In the first place, it gives me an opportunity of publicly expressing my heartfelt gratitude to Lord Minto for the unfailing courtesy and the gracious considerations which he has extended to me throughout my tenure of office. In the second place it enables me publicly to contradict some statements which have appeared in the public press regarding my resignation. It has been said that my resignation was due to pressure from below, whatever that may mean. This is diametrically opposed to the truth. The pressure has been all the other way—everybody, Indian and European, pressed me to stay on in office, and it is to me a source of genuine regret that personal considerations have prevented me from yielding to that pressure.

“ Another statement is that I have resigned because I was not admitted into a supposed inner circle of the Viceroy's Council.

“ Nothing can be further from the truth. There is no such inner circle and I was not and could not be excluded from it, and I am happy and proud to remember that I have throughout enjoyed the fullest confidence of the Viceroy and every member of his Council. I desire to take this opportunity of publicly acknowledging the generous advice and assistance of every one of my colleagues, both past and present, in the Council, advice and assistance without which I would have found my duties extremely onerous to discharge. I hope, Gentlemen, you will forgive me for having said so much about myself.

“ Gentlemen, the five years of Lord Minto's administration cover a most momentous period in the history of India. When His Excellency assumed his exalted office, there were heavy and black clouds over the Indian horizon. The public mind was perturbed to a greater extent than ever before, and Lord Minto came into enormous difficulties which certainly were not of his creation. Very shortly after his assumption of office Lord Minto, with unerring judgment, diagnosed

*Dinner at the Calcutta Club.*

the true political condition of India and pointed out—I am quoting from a published despatch—how ‘the growth of education encouraged by British rule had led to the rise of important classes claiming equality of citizenship and aspiring to take a larger part in shaping the policy of the Government.’ Liberal and generous measures were at once taken in hand with a view to the proper recognition of these claims, but before they assumed their final shape, there arose the hideous spectre of anarchy and murderous conspiracies. His Excellency’s Government was compelled to take strong and drastic measures of repression.

“To-day ‘the better—the riper mind of India’ recognises that these measures were to some extent at least necessary, and every one recognises that in any case they were taken in perfect good faith. But the Government of India did not rest contented with measures of repression. In spite of bombs and pistols, of murders and dacoities, they went on steadily with their policy of reform—their scheme of a substantial enlargement of the Legislative Councils on the principle as far as possible of an elective basis. The result was the Councils Act of 1909 followed in November, 1909, by the Rules and Regulations under that Act.

“Outsiders have little knowledge of the arduous labour involved in framing these Rules and Regulations. By His Excellency’s choice I presided over the later sittings of the Committee of the Council which was entrusted with the framing of these Rules and Regulations, and I am therefore in a position to say that had it not been for the devoted labour of every member of that Committee and the various provincial officers who were summoned to Simla for its assistance, it is more than doubtful if the different Councils could have been in existence even to-day.

“This is neither the time nor the place to enter into a criticism or a defence of these reforms. All fair-minded persons have recognised their beneficent and far-reaching character. But I cannot refrain from noticing two out of the many criticisms levelled at them.

“It has been said that they confer no real power on the representatives of the people. Criticism of this kind betrays to my mind an appalling ignorance of the history and development of representative institutions, and I would earnestly commend to the attentive perusal of my countrymen the highly instructive speech with which His Honour Sir E. Baker opened his Council in January last.

“Another and a more serious criticism is that the principle of separate or class representation has been introduced for the benefit of Mahomedans and landowners, to the detriment or disadvantage

*Dinner at the Calcutta Club.*

of the educated classes. I hope I shall be pardoned for saying that this also betrays a defect in political perspective. Education has never been in any country the sole or even the principal qualification for political franchise, and though we may regret that actual and existing conditions obliged the Government to accept the principle of class representation, we may confidently hope that the lines of demarcation, already growing faint, will disappear altogether in the fulness of time when we Indians shall have taken, to borrow the words of Lord Morley (that philosopher statesman whose resignation of the office of Secretary of State for India we deeply regret), those weary steps, those countless, tedious, toilsome steps which must be taken before we can form ourselves into a mass that has a political personality. It will require years and years of arduous, patient, persevering work before that happens, but in the meantime let us each and all, Indians and Englishmen alike—by mutual and hearty co-operation—do our little best to contribute to that splendid, that magnificent end, which I am more than ever convinced is the common aim of the Government and the people, *viz.*, the prosperity and happiness of the teeming millions of this glorious country.

“Gentlemen, I have tried to describe the condition of India at the commencement of Lord Minto’s rule. I have, I fear, at unnecessary length described the measures introduced during his rule. The result is thus described by the *Indian Nation*—a paper which I always read with pleasure and instruction: ‘A new Era has dawned—a closer tie has been established between the people and their Rulers and a healthy tide of public activities has set in, washing away old bitternesses and memories.’ A great deal of this happy result is due to the personality of Lord Minto, who has, by his devotion to public duty, his fearless courage in the face of personal danger, and his generous sympathy with all classes earned the love and gratitude of the whole country. If I may respectfully say so, His Excellency has acted in the spirit of the memorable words of Lord Mansfield, ‘I wish popularity, but it is that popularity which follows, not that which is run after. It is that popularity which sooner or later never fails to do justice to the pursuit of noble ends by noble means. I will not do that which my conscience tells me is wrong to gain daily praise of all the papers which issue from the press. I will not avoid doing that which I think right though it should draw upon me the whole artillery of libels, all that falsehood and malice can invent or credulity can swallow.’

“Gentlemen, we, the members of this Club, have reason to be specially grateful to Lord Minto. Ever since its foundation His

*Dinner at the Calcutta Club.*

Excellency has evinced his deep and abiding sympathy with the object of this Club, *viz.*, the establishment of more close and cordial relations between Indians and Englishmen. It must be a source of gratification to His Lordship to know that we have been successful in a very large measure. One word more and I have done. I desire to couple with this toast another which I am certain will be equally cordially received, *viz.*, the health of the gracious lady who has throughout shared His Excellency's cares and anxieties and even his dangers—whose name will remain permanently associated with works of charity, good-will, and benevolence for the benefit of all classes and communities in India. Lady Minto's tactful sympathy and her gracious personality have won her the love and admiration of all His Majesty's subjects—who join with us to-day in wishing Lord and Lady Minto many more years of health, happiness and usefulness in their own beautiful country.

"Gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the health of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Minto."

His Excellency the Viceroy replied as follows :—]

*Your Honour and Gentlemen*,—I sincerely thank you for the honour you have done me in inviting me to this great banquet, and for the cordiality with which you have received the toast of my health, which Mr. Sinha has proposed in such kind words. At the expiry of my term of office, I cannot tell you how much I value the appreciation of those who have either been fellow-workers with me, or who have watched the trend of public opinion during the last few years. They have been years of great political anxiety, in which it has often been impossible to foretell the immediate effects of popular agitation, to what extent it might get out of hand, to what extent it was possible to control it, to decide how much of it was due to just causes, and how much to misguided political fanaticism. I have no intention, Gentlemen, of making a political speech to-night, or of attempting again to review the story of my administration. But now that I am leaving India, I am very happy in the restful belief this representative gathering encourages me to hold—the belief that my story has been understood, and that the results of my administration

*Dinner at the Calcutta Club.*

have been appreciated,—and after all that India has passed through, I cannot but feel that the great announcement of His Majesty's intention to hold a Coronation Durbar will go very far to obliterate reminiscences that may wisely be forgotten, and will afford an invaluable opportunity to the people of India, throughout the length and breadth of the land, of testifying to their unshaken loyalty to the Throne, and devotion to the personality of the King-Emperor.

To return for a moment, Gentlemen, to my administration. No one knows its history better, or has more ably and honourably contributed towards it than Mr. Sinha, and I am glad that he has taken this opportunity of removing perfectly unjustifiable impressions as to his position in the high appointment he has held, or the course he has pursued in resigning it. I endorse every word he has said to-night. I will only add to them that his resignation is a great loss to the Government of India—a loss which I am sure no one is more ready to recognise than his able successor, whose services we have been so fortunate to secure.

I have told you, Gentlemen, that I am not going to deliver a political speech—perhaps I have already wandered too close to the vortex I would wish to avoid; however, I do not mean to tumble into it. But I may perhaps say with safety that the reception to which you have so hospitably invited me has in it much of political meaning.

The Calcutta Club was formed with the intention of encouraging “more intimate and friendly social relations between the leaders of Indian society and European gentlemen.” Gentlemen, it is upon a sympathetic recognition of those relations that the political future and happiness of this country must largely depend. It is mutual understanding and knowledge of each other, the gentle handling of peculiarities of race and creed, which will contribute more than anything else to the good government of India. National and racial differences of thought and ways of life



*Dinner at the Calcutta Club.*

there must be—but if I may say so, a “good fellow”—and in its proper interpretation that means a great deal—is a “good fellow” all the world over to whatever nationality or race he may belong. But “good fellows” cannot be discovered without meeting them, and it is the mutual discovery of them by its members that the Calcutta Club has done so much to assist.

I believe the inauguration of the Club under the Presidency of Mr. Justice Geidt synchronises almost exactly with my arrival in India—the autumn of 1905—and since then it has continued to increase in membership and in popularity. Commencing its career with monthly meetings at the Bishop’s College, it wandered for a short time to Mr. Sinha’s beautiful house, after which it secured its present abode—held I believe by a Chinese garrison, which I am told offered a stout resistance, but at last surrendered at discretion.

The Club, I know, owes its popularity largely to the influential support it has received, to Mr. Justice Geidt, who was practically its founder, to Mr. Justice Holmwood, and the Maharajas of Cooch Behar and Burdwan, and above all—I am sure you will agree with me—to its excellent Secretaries, Mr. Lindsay and Mr. Mookerjee.

It has, I am convinced, met a very pressing necessity in furnishing a centre where the leaders of Calcutta society, European and Indian, can meet each other. I have more than once had the honour of enjoying its hospitality, and have always been anxious to further the objects its members have in view, and it has been a great pleasure to me to hear of its continued success.

I must thank you, Gentlemen, for the graceful references Mr. Sinha has made on your behalf to the interest Lady Minto has taken in the welfare of the many communities of this country. She will, I know, sincerely value all that has been said of her.

I assure you I shall carry away with me very vivid

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*Farewell Address from Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

recollections of your reception to me to-night. It is the last opportunity I shall have of attending a Calcutta banquet, or of addressing a Calcutta audience. It is a great wrench to say good-bye to Calcutta, to India, with her innumerable interests, and to many friends whom I shall never forget. I can only sincerely thank you, Gentlemen, for the warmth of your farewell and the many good wishes you have so cordially expressed to me.

[After dinner, Her Excellency Lady Minto arrived, and was received in a beautifully furnished reception tent by Lady Baker, Mrs. Sinha, and Mrs. Mookerjee. An exceedingly pleasant evening was spent listening to the band and the pipers of the 26th Punjabis. Songs were also given on the auxetophone, two of which were particularly interesting to Calcutta people—Tosti's "Good-Bye," sung by Lady Maud Warrender, with orchestral accompaniment, and "O Dear my Soul," sung by Miss Katherine Jones.

A surprise was provided for the guests in the shape of a model of a Blériot aeroplane which ran down from the roof of the Club on a rope, and hovered over the shamiana. Last year the Club provided a comet for the amusement of their guests, and this year they went one better by showing an aeroplane.

Altogether there were about 500 at the party.]

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#### FAREWELL ADDRESS FROM BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

[Lord Minto accompanied by Lady Minto, Lady Eileen Elliot and 25th Nov. 1910. Staff left Calcutta at 1 p.m. on the 23rd November, after His Lordship had handed over charge to Lord Hardinge.

Their Excellencies arrived in Bombay in the afternoon of the 25th November. They were met at Victoria Terminus by Their Excellencies Sir George and Lady Clarke and the principal Government officials, the Navy being represented by His Excellency Admiral Slade.

After Lord Minto had been introduced to those present the Chamber of Commerce presented an address.

The address recalled the developments of the past 12 months and also referred to the deep regret at the death of the King-Emperor Edward VII. The address also said that the suppression of sedition and disorder tended to give confidence to further commercial welfare.

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*Farewell Address from Bombay Chamber of Commerce.*

It referred to the working of feeder lines, which important measure will prove a great benefit and encourage the development of railway extensions. The Chamber acknowledged, with many thanks, the benefit of cheaper press rates from Europe, which, they trusted, was the forerunner of reduction of charges on commercial telegrams. The accomplishment of the important scheme of the enlarged Councils was a historic event with which His Excellency's name and term of office would always be associated. This act was welcomed by all, as it not only enlarged the field of legitimate political aspirations and the discussion of public questions, but had brought the Government into closer touch than hitherto with the various communities in this country. The address further stated that His Excellency arrived in India at the commencement of a time of political unrest and trouble, and the Chamber fully realized the many anxieties and difficulties which had confronted His Excellency and which had to be surmounted, and the Chamber felt thankful that His Excellency was leaving at a time when the conditions had improved and happier feelings existed. That welfare, the Chamber was pleased to say, was enhanced during the latter period of His Excellency's term of office in India by the universally favourable monsoon of the past year, followed by bright prospects of the coming season. The Chamber prayed that after so many years of arduous work His Excellency might enjoy to the full the peace and restfulness of a holiday well earned. The address concluded by wishing Lord and Lady Minto a safe voyage, all happiness, and prosperity on their return to the Homeland.

Lord Minto in reply said :—]

*Gentlemen*,—‘This is, as you have reminded me, the third occasion on which the members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce have presented me with an address. The last occasion was very little more than a year ago—I well remember it, for you touched upon topics of great commercial and political interest which had given me much cause for careful consideration, and as to which I fully recognised the extent to which your interests were affected and which I was anxious to assist as far as possible. It is, therefore, a great pleasure to me to hear that the Government of India have been able to some extent to meet your views. But, Gentlemen, on looking back at the public work of the last twelve months we cannot but recollect that a great shadow has darkened the horizon of the Empire in the

*Farewell Address from the Citizens of Bombay.*

death of our beloved King-Emperor, to whose memory his subjects are now striving to do honour. You have alluded, Gentlemen, to the enlargement of the Legislative Councils inaugurated during my administration, and you assure me of the benefits a wider consideration of public affairs and a closer touch between the various communities and the Government of India will in your belief confer upon the population; and with the recollection of the many difficulties that had to be faced I cannot tell you how sincerely I value your assurance. Whilst not only is the political atmosphere cleared, but there is every prospect of agricultural prosperity. I congratulate you on the future outlook. It is hard to realize that five years have passed since you first welcomed me to Bombay, and that you are now bidding me farewell. I hope the great interests you represent will continue to grow and flourish, and I thank you sincerely, Gentlemen, for your kindly words and for your good wishes to Lady Minto and to myself on our departure from India.

[The address was handed to Lord Minto in a beautiful album, and bouquets of choice flowers were presented to Lord and Lady Minto and Lady Eileen by members of the All-India Moslem League. A move was then made for Government House, to which the journey was through cheering crowds of natives, who swarmed in thousands and stood twenty and thirty deep in some places to catch a glimpse of the retiring Viceroy. Police, mounted and foot, kept excellent order and usual Guards-of-Honour, etc., were in attendance.]

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FAREWELL ADDRESS FROM THE CITIZENS  
OF BOMBAY.

[The citizens of Bombay presented a farewell address to Lord Minto, in which it was stated that when his Lordship first landed in Bombay five years ago to assume the Viceroyalty it was felt on all sides that a serious juncture had been reached in the history of British rule, and that far-reaching issues depended on the manner in which the situation would be dealt with in his Lordship's time. The address briefly referred to a century of Western administration and half a

*Farewell Address from the Citizens of Bombay.*

century of Western education, which had stirred the whole East with new ambitions and clothed it with new dignity. Side by side with the growth of aspirations, steadily increasing estrangement had been for some time going on between the Government and certain important sections of the public, and the public mind could not help being filled with vague apprehensions of possible developments. His Lordship's failure in such circumstances would have been fraught with disastrous consequences in England and India alike, but it would stand to the lasting credit of His Lordship's statesmanship that before he was many months in the country he was able to gauge correctly and read the requirements of the situation and courageously set about to devise remedies to meet them. Appreciation of the reform scheme and of the deep obligation to Lady Minto's work in India were also expressed.

Lord Minto replied :—]

*Gentlemen*,—I am at a loss to find words in which to thank you for all you have said to me, for I cannot but feel that your address and the magnificent reception to which you have invited me are not merely courtesies offered to a retiring Viceroy but are a spontaneous expression by the citizens of Bombay of their appreciation of the measures enacted during my administration, the good results of which they gladly recognise. I can only tell you, *Gentlemen*, I am deeply touched by this generous evidence of approval. You have in your address sketched the political state of affairs when I assumed the responsibilities of my Viceroyalty. I believe that you have sketched them quite accurately, certainly in accordance with views which I have often expressed, which I need not repeat, and now on the day of my departure from your shores I could indeed look for no greater gratification than your cordial assurance that I have not worked in vain. In the introduction of any great constitutional reform there must of necessity be many difficulties to face, and even when they have been overcome the perfection of the new scheme of administration can certainly not at once be expected. But, *Gentlemen*, the struggle of the last few years has been for the recognition of great principles which have now been accepted, and we may wisely leave it to

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*Farewell Address from the Bombay Municipal Corporation.*

time and experience to decide upon the details of the machinery by which those principles can best be safeguarded and maintained. I welcome your recognition of the closer relations which have been established between the Government and the public, and of the benefits to be derived from the enlarged representation of interests and communities; and I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks for the able assistance the Government of India has invariably received from the Bombay members of the Imperial Legislative Council, whose prolonged presence at Calcutta has, I know, frequently been the cause of grave inconvenience to them. I shall watch the session of future Councils with the earnest hope that they may increasingly contribute to the good government of India and the welfare of her people. I thank you, Gentlemen, on Lady Minto's behalf for all you have so kindly said of her. Our interest in India will never cease, and we shall carry away with us affectionate recollections of the good wishes and of the memorable farewell tribute extended to us by the citizens of Bombay.

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FAREWELL ADDRESS FROM THE BOMBAY  
MUNICIPAL CORPORATION,

[The Corporation presented a farewell address at the Bunder 25th Nov. 1910. just before Lord Minto embarked on board the "Dufferin."

Lord Minto spoke as follows :—]

*Gentlemen*,—The first address of welcome I received in India was from the members of your Corporation, when, as far as I could judge, the political atmosphere seemed clear, when apparently the chief task before me was the direction of my administration on the lines laid down by my distinguished predecessors. Five years have rolled by since then, five strenuous years of which history will have much to tell. You know the story of my Viceroyalty, Gentlemen, how it has been marked by the development

*Farewell Address from the Municipal Corporation.*

of new hopes and ambitions, by political unrest and many anxieties and dangers, and I cannot sufficiently thank you for your appreciation of my endeavour to deal with a position of peculiar complexity. I sadly realize that this is the last of the many kind addresses which have been presented to me during the past few weeks. They have emanated from bodies differing in many essential characteristics—in religion, in nationality, in mode of life, but they have all breathed the same sentiments of loyalty to the Throne and appreciation and gratitude for the various measures that have been taken by the Government of India during my term of office, in consideration of the political and social aspirations of the people, and to ensure the tranquility of the country committed to their charge. You can well understand, Gentlemen, how gratifying it is to me to have been the recipient of such an address, and to be able to lay down the reins of Government with the full assurance that however incomplete the task I set before me may be, I have at least earned the goodwill of the general body of my fellow-subjects in India, whether Indian or European. And now I am about to leave your beautiful land, I must take this opportunity of thanking not only you, Gentlemen, for your cordial and sympathetic address, but every class and community to whose loyal support and co-operation I owe any success which has attended my efforts in guiding the destinies of the Indian Empire, and of bidding them a final and regretful farewell. I shall have much pleasure in conveying to the King-Emperor your assurances of loyalty and devotion to the Throne. I thank you on behalf of Lady Minto, as well as of myself, for all your kind words, and we wish you good-bye with many affectionate remembrances of India and her people.

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SPEECHES  
BY THE  
EARL OF MINTO.

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III.—SPEECHES DELIVERED IN ENGLAND.

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1911.

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DINNER AT GROCERS' HALL.

[The Earl of Minto was admitted to the Freedom of the Company 8th Feb. 1911. of Grocers at a Banquet given at the Grocers' Hall on the 8th February 1911. The dinner was of a private nature. Lord Minto was first enrolled as a "Freeman," then followed the dinner, after which in reply to the toast in his honour he said :—]

*Mr. Master*,—I cannot sufficiently thank you for the graceful words in which you have proposed my health and for the cordiality of the welcome you have extended to me on behalf of this ancient Company, and for all you have said as to my services in India. I can assure you, Gentlemen, that to my mind there is no greater or more encouraging reward for a public servant after years of hard work in distant lands, than to feel on his return home that his labours have been watched and approved by his fellow countrymen.

I deeply appreciate the honour you have paid me in admitting me to the Freedom of your great Company—associated as it has been for centuries with the history of England—and I cannot but think of the many distinguished men whose names have adorned your roll of Freemen, in whose footsteps it will be my earnest endeavour worthily to follow.



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*At the Ritz.*

I have been told, Mr. Master, that your hospitality to-night is entirely informal—that no vain endeavour at oratorical effort is expected from me—that I am merely invited to spend a convivial evening with my comrades of the Company. I will not therefore weary you with the history of the last five years in India—stirring years though they have been—years often of great anxiety accentuated by political unrest demanding simultaneously administrative changes and a stern insistence upon the maintenance of the public safety. Mr. Master, I will not embark this evening upon the story of those times. I will only tell you Gentlemen, that to the best of my belief India has weathered the storm well; and now that the late captain of the ship has hauled down his flag and is safe in harbour, he thanks you again most sincerely for your welcome home to him, and for the kind words of your Master, and for the great honour you have conferred upon him to-night.

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### BANQUET AT THE RITZ.

17th Feb. 1911. [Lord Minto was entertained at an informal Banquet given at the Ritz on the 17th February 1911. The Duke of Portland was in the Chair and among those present were the Duke of Richmond, the Earl of Crewe (Secretary of State for India), Lord Alverstone (Chief Justice), His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar, Lord Strathcomer (High Commissioner for Canada), The Earl of Durham, Earl of Clarendon, Lieutenant-General Sir H. Smith Dorrien, Lieutenant-General Sir A. Gaselee, Lieutenant-General Sir E. Hutton, and many other soldiers and old hunting and racing friends.

In reply to the toast in his honour Lord Minto said :—]

*My Lord Duke, Your Highness, My Lords and Gentlemen,*—At the Farewell banquet to which my old friends invited me five years ago, that great gathering to which I can assure you I have so often looked back with warm affection, I said that it was impossible for me to find words in which to thank your Chairman for all the much too

*At the Ritz.*

flattering things he said of me, or to explain to my hosts how much I valued the reception they gave to the toast of my health. I find it ten times more difficult to do so to-night. It is difficult to realise that more than five years have passed since then. I find myself again sitting next the same distinguished Chairman, the same old friend who has so kindly come forward a second time to preside over your hospitality to me, and I see the same familiar faces gathered around me and almost wonder if it is not all a dream.

My Lord Duke, I can only thank you very warmly for all you have said and my friends around me for the welcome home they have given to me to-night; it is the welcome of old comrades which is dearer to me than any other welcome.

The years that have passed since we last met together have been very eventful ones in the history of India. You may perhaps remember that in returning thanks for my health at Princes' Restaurant I said that my racing days had taught me "that many a race had been won by giving the horse a rest in his gallop," and those words have been quoted over and over again in India in speeches and in newspapers, during the stormy times through which we passed, when advice was often very abundant, sometimes to force the running, sometimes to pull the horse up altogether. Please forgive my racing similes. I can only tell you that whatever my own feelings towards the horse might have been he gave me very little rest, and by force of circumstances I had to ride a waiting race. Now that I have passed the post, if the friends who are gathered around me are satisfied with the way in which I rode the race, that is quite enough for me.

My Lord Duke, you have said many kind things this evening of my work in India; I have indeed been fortunate if I at all deserve them. I do not wish to minimise the constant strain and anxiety that had to be faced,

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but this happy gathering to-night is not an occasion on which to enter into the story of my administration, involved as it naturally is with much that is politically contentious both in India and at home. I can only tell you generally that my term of office was marked by the development of political hopes and aspirations which were largely the result of the system of education we have ourselves introduced into India, and that this development synchronised with dangerous anarchical conspiracies. It was necessary to examine and to recognise reasonable political demands and at the same time firmly to put one's foot down upon organised outrage and assassination. Consequently the position to the outside observer was somewhat confused, for the Government of India was called upon by the nature of the conditions by which it was confronted to follow two lines of action—the inauguration of administrative reforms and a stern repression of sedition. The position was perhaps not unnaturally at one time somewhat misunderstood at home, but it is my firm belief that the policy which insisted upon keeping these two crucial objects in view was the right one, and that to that dual line of action the Government of India is fully entitled to ascribe the present quiet state of the country.

My Lord Duke, both in India and at home we are still haunted by the terrible shadow of the Mutiny, and there was often far too great a tendency to assume that anarchical crimes were an indication of smouldering rebellion throughout India, than which nothing could be more untrue, and that they were the forerunners of another cruel conflict; whilst my difficulties were enormously increased by misguided individuals in this country who did not hesitate to correspond with the most dangerous agitators, and by the organisation in London and Paris of crimes to be committed in India.

That was generally the state of affairs with which the Government of India had to deal. To meet it I had the

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*At the Ritz.*

assistance of the most splendid Civil Service in the world, backed by an army, British and Indian, that would delight the heart of any soldier, together with the constant and loyal support of the great ruling Chiefs of India, to whom I shall be for ever grateful for much wise counsel. But, Gentlemen, I had other mainstays besides these in much closer and more affectionate relations to me personally. I had, I verily believe, the best staff in the world. Both in Canada and India I have owed a great deal to my staffs, and I know how much I am indebted to them for the trouble they have taken in arranging the opportunity I am so glad to have of meeting my old friends this evening. The majority of my Canadian and Indian staffs are, I believe, here. I know I need not tell them that I shall never forget their services.

Above all, my Lord Duke, Lady Minto was always at my right hand. She will, I know, deeply appreciate all you have said of her. I thank you on her behalf, and if I may be permitted to say so it would be difficult to over-value what she has done in India. Throughout my hard work I knew that I could rely upon her for the most capable and sound advice, and if ever there were symptoms of danger she absolutely knew no fear. Her own work in India has been very great. The Minto Fête at Calcutta which she originated during our second cold weather in India, with the help of Sir Warren Crooke Lawless, not only resulted in large contributions to charities, but had an excellent political effect in the opportunities it afforded the Ameer of Afghanistan, who was our guest at the time, of making acquaintance with Indian society. The Nursing Association which bears her name is now supplying a want that has long been grievously felt in respect to the supply of nurses, and the friendly relations Lady Minto now enjoys with many purdah ladies has, in my opinion, and I am sure in the opinion of those who watch Indian social questions, done much towards encouraging mutual understanding in a sphere where it was greatly wanted.

*At the Ritz.*

In our home circle, too, Lady Minto was chief of my staff. I do not know, my Lord Duke, if you have enjoyed the same large and varied experience of aides-de-camp as I have—a charming and interesting race who, outside the sterner duties they performed so well for me, I found could wield many influences of a delicate nature with which I have had personally little experience. I left them to the control of Lady Minto, and the results, no matter how attained, always appeared to me excellent.

And now, Gentlemen, I must not weary you with any more of my experiences. I would wish, however, to tell you this—that this gathering of friends means a great deal to me, as did your farewell to me five years ago. It means that you have not forgotten me. I am very proud of possessing such friends. Time has, I think, been kind to us. You all look to me very much the same; our ranks, too, have not been heavily thinned. One of us—and of course we are all just as young as he is—is only now beginning life as a M. F. H., capable of holding his own over a country with the best of them. We have not begun to grow old yet, and seriously when I look around this room and see those who, whatever line of life they have adopted, have done it with their might, I realise that they represent much of that good hard stuff which has helped to build up the Empire.

Throughout my time in India I knew that I could rely upon your sympathies and your friendship, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the reception you have given me to-night and for your welcome home to me. I thank you on behalf of Lady Minto and myself for the toast of our health your Chairman has so kindly proposed.

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## PRESENTATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF LONDON AT THE GUILDHALL.

[The presentation of the Freedom of the City of London to Lord Minto took place at the Guildhall on the 23rd February. The Lord Mayor (Sir Vezev Strong) received the guests. The Company included many notable Anglo-Indians and the Secretary of State for India, Lord Crewe, and his two immediate predecessors in that office. Lord Minto, who was accompanied by Lady Minto, was admitted to the Freedom of the City by the Chamberlain, Sir Joseph Dimsdale. In reply to his remarks Lord Minto said :—]

*My Lord Mayor, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—  
I am quite unable to find words in which to thank Sir Joseph Dimsdale for the eloquent terms in which he has referred to my past services. I recognise that as City Chamberlain he has spoken on behalf of the City of London, and I can assure you, my Lord Mayor, that to my mind no greater honour can be paid to any public servant than enrolment on her list of Honorary Freemen. It implies so much. To one who has served his country in distant climes I take it to mean that labours performed as it may sometimes have seemed to him in obscurity, and perhaps with a lack of that brilliant opportunity which attracts immediate public applause, have nevertheless not been lost sight of, and that apart from the influences of political bias he has earned the approval of his fellow countrymen as expressed by the citizens of the greatest City of the greatest Empire in the world.

My Lord Mayor, the City's roll of Honorary Freemen is emblazoned with the names of many distinguished men who have helped to build up the strength of our country. It will be my earnest endeavour to assist to perpetuate her glorious history, and to prove myself not unworthy of the great honour you have conferred upon me to-day.

Sir Joseph Dimsdale has alluded to the Military experiences of my early days, and to my services in Canada. It was in Canada that I first entered official life, when Lord Lansdowne took me with him as his Military Secre-

*At the Guildhall.*

tary in the early eighties, and it was to Canada that I returned in subsequent years as Governor General to witness the marvellous development of the goldfields of Alaska and British Columbia, and the wheatfields of the North-West Territories, and to wish God-speed to those magnificent Canadian contingents which came to the aid of the mother country in South Africa and stamped their name on our success at Paardeberg.

After six years in the Dominion, and one short year at home, I was appointed to the Viceroyalty of India.

The City Chamberlain has dealt very generously with my work in India. I can only say, my Lord Mayor, that after the manner of all our public servants, I have tried to do my duty to the best of my ability, but the five years during which I had the honour to represent His Majesty the King in our Eastern Empire were, from various causes, exceptional years in the history of India—years of great strain and trial to British administrators, of great anxieties and a necessity of great administrative changes. I think therefore, my Lord Mayor, now that I have returned home, and after all that Sir Joseph Dimsdale has so kindly said, that I should be wanting in respect to this distinguished assembly if I did not attempt to give some account of the lessons of those five years as far as I have been able to learn them—if I did not attempt to tell you something of the advance of political thought in India, and the effects it must wield on British rule. I can but do so very briefly; I can only refer to the main points which appeared to me to initiate and influence the trend of events, and in doing so I am afraid I shall have to plead guilty of repeating much that I have said in India.

I succeeded a brilliant statesman who had assiduously laboured to ensure the efficiency of British administration. I have good reason to be grateful to him for the perfection of a Departmental machinery, the working of every wheel

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of which he had personally supervised. I inherited from him, too, peace on our frontiers, largely the result of the policy he had fostered, and which the Anglo-Russian convention contributed to confirm—a peace which was only broken by two short frontier expeditions, the rapid success of which bore witness to the constant care Lord Kitchener had bestowed upon our British and Indian troops. But before I had been in India many months it became evident to me that we should ere long have to deal with a mass of accumulated popular discontent—a discontent which it was difficult to define, and which was shared in by many loyal subjects of the Crown. I was not peculiar in my apprehensions, my colleagues unanimously agreed with me. We saw that something must be done, and done soon. As far as we could judge of the character of the discontent much of it was justifiable, and was directly due to a dawning belief that further opportunities must be afforded for the official representation of public opinion, and a greater share be granted to Indians in the government of their country. The seeds of the Western education sown by Macaulay and cultivated by his successors were beginning to bear fruit. New hopes and new ambitions were coming into being, the results of British administration—results of which we have many reasons to be proud, but which were nevertheless bringing with them many difficulties and a condition of popular feeling which Indian administrators had not hitherto been asked to take. We were called upon to recognise the fruits of the Western education which we had ourselves introduced into India. They were bound to ripen some day, but events had recently occurred in the Far East which vastly contributed to hasten their maturity. The successes of Japan had produced an enormous effect in the Eastern world; they were talked of in the Khanates of Central Asia, in Afghanistan, amongst the war-like tribes of our frontiers; they were talked of throughout the length and breadth of India. They were a



*At the Guildhall.*

revelation as to what an Eastern Military power could do, and the Eastern world began to wonder and to think.

That was generally, as far as I could judge, the state of affairs soon after I arrived in India. The enlarged legislative Councils, and the appointment of an Indian to the Viceroy's Executive Council, were a response to what the Secretary of State and the Government of India believed to be just hopes. And, my Lord Mayor, I should be ungenerous indeed if in speaking for the Government of India of which I was the head, as well as for myself, I did not recognise how much India owed throughout those difficult times to the far-sighted statesmanship of Lord Morley, and to the brave insistence with which he advocated in Parliament those reforms which he and the Government of India fully agreed in believing to be for the best interests of India.

My Lord Mayor, so far I have referred chiefly to what I ventured to call, in India, "loyal unrest"—the unrest due to what many loyal Indians believed to be a disregard on our part of just political hopes, but which was generally entirely apart from seditious ends or any wish for the subversion of British rule. If this unrest had been persistently disregarded, it would certainly have developed into a hostility far more dangerous than any with which we had subsequently to deal, in that it represented the conviction of many moderate and loyal men, that they were unjustly ignored. They would not have consented to remain so. There are, we know, extremists in every political party, and in this case, if the wrong had not been removed, the extremists would have gained the day. It is my firm belief, my Lord Mayor, that we had little time to spare in recognising the evil. No sooner did we show an inclination to do so, than a mass of invaluable moderate thought rallied to the support of the Government of India.

But we were suddenly brought face to face with an agitation of an entirely different nature. The terrible

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murders of the two poor ladies at Mozufferpur, followed by what are called the Maniktolah Garden discoveries, sent a shock throughout India, and gave the clue to a far-reaching conspiracy aiming by assassination at the demoralization of British officials, and the ultimate disappearance of British rule from India. The would-be promoters of such anarchy could have had little knowledge of the stuff of which British officials are made, but such was undoubtedly their line of action. It is needless to enumerate the string of outrages that followed one upon another. The first duty of every government is to ensure the public safety, and that we were determined to do with all the power at our command. But the really crucial question to decide was the policy to be adopted towards the political state of the country generally. I know well how difficult it is to decide at what point extreme political agitation may be tempted to join hands with revolutionary violence. But was no answer to be given to the political demands of which I have told you, which we ourselves considered just demands? Was no answer to be given to them because we were aware of anarchical plots? Was the Government of India to allow these murderous conspiracies to blacken the reputation of the whole loyal population of India, the vast majority of which was as horrified and alarmed by them as were their British rulers?

Personally, I had never any hesitation as to the line to be followed. We had to insist on separating the sheep from the goats. The Government of India was in my opinion compelled by force of circumstances to adopt a dual action—to recognise the necessity for administrative reforms and simultaneously to repress sedition, and consequently our action was perhaps not unnaturally somewhat misunderstood at home. There was great nervousness in India as well as in England. The shadow of the Mutiny still haunts us, and there was a wide-spread assumption that the crimes with which we had had to deal were

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the forerunners of another cruel conflict—the symptoms of a coming popular revolution—an assumption which I have over and over again absolutely refused to admit.

The policy which the Government of India therefore adopted was increased representation in the Executive and Legislative Councils, and a stern repression of seditious crime supported by the passing of certain new acts, as to which I need not trouble you. To the adoption of this policy the Government of India may in my opinion unhesitatingly ascribe the quiet which now exists in India.

That, my Lord Mayor, is a very superficial sketch of the political history of my term of office. I need not tell you that it was a period of many anxieties—anxieties which were enormously increased by the misguided actions of individuals in this country, who did not hesitate to sympathise with the most dangerous agitators in India, whilst plots were deliberately hatched in London and in Paris for the assassination of His Majesty's officers in India—plots which the people of India looked upon with the same contempt and disgust as did His Majesty's officers.

My Lord Mayor, I speak now untrammelled by official reticence, and I feel that I should not be doing my duty if on the first occasion that has been given to me I did not tell the people of this country of dangers that were initiated at home in respect to the most delicate and difficult administration of our great Eastern Dependency.

I am afraid, my Lord Mayor, of trespassing too long upon the patience of my audience, but if I may be allowed to do so I would like to say a very few words as to the present position in India as effected by the enlarged councils.

In the organization of the personnel of those councils, the Government of India was anxious to provide for the representation not only of different communities, but of the great interests of the country—landed interests, commercial and industrial interests, and the interests of Native

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States, as well as of the views of the educated classes hitherto made known to the public through the medium of the Congress. The consequence is that the Imperial Legislative Council, which is the council with which I was of course most intimately acquainted, has much that is very conservative in its composition. It represents in a considerable proportion the landed and business interests of India, and the wealth and enterprise which give stability to the welfare of the country. A council so composed is not likely to hide its lights under a bushel. It will make itself heard, possibly not always in accordance with popular views in this country, but in directions which are likely to command the sympathies of Anglo-Indian opinion in India. I was personally acquainted with every member of the Imperial Legislative Council when I left Calcutta, and I cannot speak too highly of their moderation in debate, their sound common sense, and their readiness to accept suggestions as to the course of action to be pursued.

But the inauguration of the enlarged councils marks the commencement of a new era, up to which our Indian subjects have advanced under British tutelage by successive steps of legislation, an advance of which we may well be proud, though, as I have already told you, it has of necessity brought with it difficulties with which we have not hitherto had to deal—an era in which we must expect to hear the expressions of Indian opinion increase in volume and in force, but during which, I firmly believe, the Government of India—in India—will continue to grow in strength, response to English sympathy and support, but in which in its relations with the central Government of the Empire will require to be directed with a very light hand.

The Government of India is of course entirely subservient to the Secretary of State, and must be so in respect to the recognition of political principles and the inauguration of broad lines of policy. But the daily administration of the Government of the country can only be carried on

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efficiently and safely by those to whom long and anxious experience has given some insight into the complex and mysterious surroundings of the people committed to their charge.

India cannot be safely governed from home. Any attempt so to govern it in these days of rapid communication, when collusion between political parties in India and political parties in England is not difficult, and when consequently the Government of India may be harassed by political influences to which it should never be exposed, can but end in disaster.

No one admires more than I do the generous impulses of the people of England in respect to the just government of their fellow-subjects of whatever race in every part of the Empire, but Western modes of treatment are not necessarily applicable to Eastern grievances. No Viceroy, however eloquent he may be with his pen, can portray to a Secretary of State thousands of miles away the picture which lies before him. He can perhaps describe its rugged outlines, but the ever-changing lights and shades which must so often influence his instant action, he cannot reproduce. He and his Council can alone be safely entrusted with the daily conduct of affairs in the vast territories they are appointed to administrate.

My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have spoken somewhat freely because I am deeply impressed by the importance of conveying to you the conclusions I have come to during years very full of meaning for the happiness of the people of our Indian Empire—an Empire constructed out of much diverse material by British soldiers and statesmen, and the magnificent future of which we may trust to the mutual and loyal efforts of the British and Indian fellow-subjects of the King-Emperor to ensure.

I thank you, my Lord Mayor, for the great honour which the City has conferred on me.

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## LUNCHEON AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

[After the ceremony in the Guildhall the Lord Mayor entertained 23rd Feb. 1911. his guests to luncheon in the Mansion House.

Lord Morley proposed Lord Minto's health, and in reply Lord Minto said :—]

*My Lord Mayor, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,*—  
I must in the first place tell you how great a pleasure it is to me that the toast of my health should have been proposed by the statesman with whom I served during very nearly the whole period of my appointment in India, and I cannot thank you sufficiently, Ladies and Gentlemen, for the cordiality of your reception of all he has so kindly said of me.

I cannot but look upon Lord Morley as a comrade with whom I have fought through a campaign—a comrade who I think will agree with me that it was a somewhat strenuous campaign, but the results of which I hope may have conferred some benefits on those on whose behalf it was fought.

The difficulties that have had to be faced during the last five years in India have certainly not been few, and I shall never forget how much I have owed throughout very troublous times to the indefatigable labours, and the great knowledge of India, of the Indian Civil Service. The Civil Service and our magnificent British and Indian Army are indeed assets of which we can be justly proud. But, my Lord Mayor, I had also in the midst of many doubts and anxieties another mainstay upon which I could rely—the great Ruling Chiefs of India, whose loyal assistance and sound advice I never sought for in vain. I hope that the coming visit of the King to India may assist to encourage their personal relations with the Throne to which they are so loyally devoted.

I feel, my Lord Mayor, that I should not be justified in adding further to the story I have already told you this morning of my administration.

*At the Mansion House.*

I assure you, my Lord Mayor, that I shall always treasure the recollection of the great ceremony of to-day and the warmth of the welcome extended to me by the Citizens of London.











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